The New-York Times.

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BEFORE RICHMOND.

A BATTLE ON FRIDAY.

THE REBEL LINES ASSAULTED.

The Enemy Driven Within Their Intrenchments.

The Ground Gained Held by Our Troops.

THREE HUNDRED PRISONERS TAKEN.

OUR LOSS ABOUT THREE THOUSAND.

GEN. R. O. TYLER WOUNDED.

A Battle on Friday—Combined Assault on the Rebel Works—No Decisive Advantage Gained—Our Losses Three Thousand—Three Hundred Prisoners Captured—The Rebels Driven Within their Works.

[OFFICIAL.]

WASHINGTON, June 4, 1864.

To Major-Gen. Dix:

Dispatches from Gen. GRANT'S headquarters, dated 3 o'clock yesterday, have just been received. No operations took place on Thursday. Yesterday, at 4:30 o'clock A. M., Gen. GRANT made an assault on the enemy's lines, of which he makes the following report:

"We assaulted at 4:30 A. M., driving the enemy within his intrenchments at all points, but without gaining any decisive advantage. Our troops now occupy a position close to the enemy, some places within fifty yards, and are remaining. Our loss was not severe, nor do I suppose the enemy to have lost heavily. We captured over three hundred prisoners, mostly from BRECKINRIDGE."

Another later official report, not from Gen. GRANT, estimates the number of our killed and wounded at about three thousand. The following officers are among the killed:

Col. HASKELL, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin.

Col. POSTER, Eighth New-York Heavy Artillery.

Col. MORRIS, Sixty-sixth New-York.

Among the wounded are Gen. R. O. TYLER—seriously—will probably lose a foot; Col. MCMAHON, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth New-York; Col. BYRNE, Twenty-eighth Massachusetts—probably mortally; and Col. BROOKE, Fifty-third Pennsylvania.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Details of Previous Movements.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Thursday, June 2, 1864.

Our cavalry had an engagement with the enemy on Tuesday evening, driving them from their position on the Mechanicsville road, and causing them considerable loss.

Yesterday morning a large force of cavalry and infantry advanced to retake the ground, but were met with such a destructive fire from the Michigan Brigade, with their seven shooters, as to cause the enemy to retire in haste. Several efforts were made by them, but to no purpose, to recover what they had lost, the Sixth Corps having been reinforced by our cavalry during the night.

Near Cold Harbor, in the afternoon, the enemy made a desperate attack on the corps, but were very handsomely repulsed and driven about three-fourths of a mile, their dead and wounded being left in our possession.

Gen. RICKETT'S division, during the fight, took over five hundred prisoners. Our loss was not severe.

Heavy cannonading was heard up to a late hour of the night in that direction.

In the centre also a strong effort was made to force Gen. WARREN from his position, but here also their exertions failed, and they were driven back after several hours' very desperate fighting, with a heavy loss. The lines on this part of the field remained about the same after the contest, which was kept up till after 10 P. M.

On the right, across Totopotamy Creek, Gen. HANCOCK was attacked on his left, but not in force, the object seeming to be for the purpose of feeling our position. Gen. HANCOCK threw out two or three regiments to feel the enemy's left, when they were found to be in a strong location, with batteries masked so as to rake the ground in front. No attack was made here on our part, and this morning the Second Corps changed its position toward the left, where a battle is expected to-day or to-morrow.

We are continually changing position, and hence it is impossible to detail the exact location of each corps or division for more than a few hours.

Our losses yesterday are said to be very light, not near so heavy as those of the enemy, they being the attacking party.

News from the White House—Conflagration Reported in Richmond—Lee Again Reported Sick.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, June 4.

The steamer *Connecticut*, which left the White House at 6 o'clock yesterday morning, reports that on Thursday great clouds of smoke could be seen arising in the direction of Richmond, and it was believed at the White House that a disastrous conflagration was in progress at the rebel Capital.

Several of the rebel wounded brought up on the *Connecticut* say that Gen. LEE has been taken sick, and gone back to Richmond, leaving the army under command of EWELL.

Eight hundred rebel prisoners have already reached the White House, and others are on the way down.

A contraband camp has been established at the White House, which already contains about one thousand contrabands, and they continue to come in.

The Richmond and York River Railroad is being rapidly repaired. The bridge over the Pamunky was completed on Thursday, and cars have arrived on barges from Alexandria. The first engine to run over the road is a new one named the *Lieut.-Gen. Grant*.

Repair shops for the army are being established at the White House, and the place looks like a City of business.

Gen. ABERCROMBIE is in command of the post, and has general supervision of the landing of troops, &c.

Capt. PITKIN is Quartermaster, and the Sanitary and Christian Commissions are there in full force, with a large amount of hospital stores of every kind.

A number of wounded of the Second and Ninth Army Corps were reaching the White House when the *Connecticut* left.

Hospital tents, with accommodations for three or four thousand patients, have been erected there.

Dr. BAKER, of the British Army, came up on the *Connecticut* and assisted in caring for the wounded, including sixty-two officers. There were quite a number of rebel wounded on board, among whom was Col. C. B. CHRISTIAN, of the Forty-ninth Virginia Infantry, who was shot in the shoulder.

Among the wounded brought up on the *Connecticut* were Col. ENT, Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves; Col. St. Clair Mulholland, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, shot in the groin; Capt. H. Windsin, Aide-de-Camp to Gen. Torbert; First Lieut. J. J. Christiancy, Aide-de-Camp on Gen. Custer's Staff; Capt. A. E. Tower, Sixth Michigan Cavalry, sick; Capt. A. J. Leach, First New-York Dragoons; Capt. W. C. Hall, Second New-York Cavalry; and Capt. J. R. Spencer, Third Maryland Cavalry, sick.

The Fighting of Tuesday and Wednesday—The Enemy's Dead and Wounded Left on the Field—The Position and Extent of our Line.

Special Dispatch to the Tribune.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Wednesday, June 1, 1864.

Yesterday afternoon SHERIDAN encountered the enemy's cavalry on the Mechanicsville pike, and after quite a heavy engagement, drove them to within about five miles of Richmond, holding his ground. The Fifth Corps soon after pressed forward and formed his rear support; and this morning the Sixth Corps swings around from its old position on the right, and moves down to Cold Harbor and Mechanicsville. BARLOW'S division, of the Second Corps, again distinguished itself last night, just before dark, in charging upon and carrying two lines of the enemy's rifle-pits. The Seventh New-York Heavy Artillery, just come, acquitted itself with distinguished gallantry, and sustained a loss of nearly one hundred and fifty.

Our entire lines were considerably advanced last night, and the impression seems to prevail that LEE has drawn his main force within the inner defences of Richmond. His losses the past two days must have been very severe, largely in excess of ours.

This night headquarters are again in the saddle, but where it will light does not yet seem to be generally understood. The sound of all our cannonading is now distinctly heard in Richmond, and the fugitive contrabands who stroll into camp report the citizens there as in the highest state of excitement and trepidation.

The scene in front of WARREN yesterday morning was sad and sickening to the last degree.

The enemy had left all his dead and such wounded as were unable to get themselves away in utter wantonness, and there they lay, when the breaking light of dawn revealed ghastly heaps of dead, dying, horribly mangled and more slightly wounded, piled one upon another. There can be no question that the enemy willfully abandoned his seriously wounded to our care, with the deliberate purpose of imposing the burden of their care upon us.

NINE A. M.—HANCOCK is still hammering away at the enemy's advance picket line, eliciting thus far little or no response.

Capt. PLATT, of the Commissary Department, who was captured yesterday, it is stated, was at the time reconnoitering outside our lines.

Our extreme left to-day rests upon the line of the River Railroad, giving us a line of some six to eight miles in extent.

THURSDAY, June 2—8 A. M.—About 4 P. M. yesterday, the Sixth Corps, on our extreme left, below Cold Harbor, made a heavy charge, supported by Baldy SMITH'S forces, which had come up and taken position. Gen. WRIGHT made a desperate onset, resulting in carrying the enemy's first line of works, and the capture of from six to eight hundred prisoners. The enemy's loss has been very severe, and our own considerable. The affair is spoken of by Gen. MEADE as one of great gallantry and advantage to us.

An hour later, and WARREN was assailed after the old plan of hurling massed columns upon his lines, but having his infantry well posted behind earthworks, and his artillery well in position, the enemy was repulsed in three desperate charges, with frightful slaughter. WARREN'S loss is given as about three hundred. The same attempts were made upon HANCOCK'S line, and repulsed with equal stubbornness and valor. At times, just prior to and after dark, our entire lines would be engaged, but in no case did our troops waver, or give an inch of ground, though the fighting has been the most desperate of any we have had since Spottsylvania. Gens. MEADE and GRANT participated with the men in feelings of the highest satisfaction over yesterday's work.

The main attack was upon GRIFFIN, but his men stood their ground like rocks, and wherever the rebel masses were hurled against any particular point, a deadly fire was poured in upon them, so that while our losses will not exceed five hundred in all, that of the enemy must have been two or three thousand. Such frantic assaults as the enemy made upon our earthworks, with the repeated annihilation of his troops, can only be accounted for by his desperation and madness.

Our corps occupied the following order yesterday: HANCOCK'S right near Bethesda, BURNSIDE next, WARREN in centre, nearly fronting Alyit's Station, then WRIGHT stretching down to Cold Harbor, supported by Baldy SMITH, whose forces were also more or less engaged at times. BURNSIDE'S corps was also heavily assaulted at times, and acquitted themselves most creditably.

The new troops for the first time under fire have won special commendation for their heroic endurance and bravery; despite hard marching, hard and irregular sleep and rations, and despite some of the most stubborn fighting of the war, are still hopeful, even jubilant. Every move our army now makes is in the desired direction, and the men are inspired thereby.

Baldy SMITH visited headquarters for the first time last night. Our left to-day rests upon the line of the York River Railroad, giving us a line of some six to eight miles in extent.

Reports from Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, June 4.

This afternoon's *American* says:

"A gentleman who left the front at 9 o'clock on Friday morning, represents the attacks reported by Gen. GRANT, as having opened with the fiercest cannonading along the whole line. Cannonading could be heard as he progressed down the Peninsula. One important fact reported by our informant is, that the army is in the best possible condition and spirits. They have never in any previous campaign, been so well supplied; there was abundant provisions constantly going forward. The whole army worship Gen. GRANT, and say that he is the only man who has given them a chance to fight.

The belief was universal, both among the troops and residents of the country in the vicinity of Richmond, that the rebel capital must fall.

There had been no attempted raid on the White House, as reported, and consequently the rumored capture of FITZHUGH LEE and his cavalry was unfounded.

The White House presents a scene of activity unprecedented, even during the McClellan campaign.

GEN. BUTLER'S ARMY.

A Skirmish Wednesday—Arrival of Mrs. Gen. Butler—A Serenade—Reports of Deserters.

From Our Own Correspondent.

IN THE FIELD, BERMUDA HUNDRED, Thursday, June 2, 1864—5 o'clock A. M.

While I am writing a slight skirmish appears to be going on near our right, sharp musketry firing being heard from that direction.

Everything was quiet yesterday, but few shots of any kind being exchanged between our men and the rebels.

Mrs. BUTLER arrived here from Fortress Monroe late in the afternoon, coming to camp from Bermuda Landing in an ambulance. During the evening Col. SERRS visited the General and his wife. His excellent band, which, by the way, he had ordered to be here, were placed in front of the General's headquarters, and immediately commenced their serenade, which was intended to be complimentary to the wife of the Commanding General. Beginning with a favorite selection from "Il Trovatore," the band then played many favorite and familiar airs, which, to judge from the demonstrations of delight issuing from the General's quarters, were really appreciated.

The band deserves a passing notice, the members thereof being, as they are, all novices. It is led by Mr. JOHN JONES, who, at the organization of the band, was the only man connected with it who knew anything about music. Now the practice they have received has made them the best in this section of the army.

While they were executing the "Battle Cry of Freedom," a brisk cannonade was opened on our right, which, being responded to by our artillerists, created quite a roaring, in strange contrast with the soft harmony produced by the instruments of the band.

Deserters who came in yesterday report Gen. LEE to have fallen back to his defences at Richmond, and state that the rebels have concentrated all their available men at that place. They have so weakened their forces in our front, that they think we could easily drive them out, if a fierce attack was to be made. The people of Petersburgh had resigned all hope of saving the place from falling into the hands of the Yanks. No militia was stationed there.

The firing at the front is waxing more severe, artillery having opened.

The Fight of Thursday—The Rebels Make a Dash at our Rifle-pits—How the Dash Was Circumvented and the Rebels Captured—Deserters Coming In By Squads.

From Our Own Correspondent.

IN THE FIELD, BERMUDA HUNDRED, Friday, June 3, 1864.

We had quite a "brisk little time" here yesterday morning. The enemy made a dash at our pickets, with the intention of gaining possession of the entire line of rifle-pits, wherein our sentries "hide" themselves, as the reb say. It will be remembered that they gained possession of a portion of these pits when they made their first attack on our position, but on THAT'S front they were unsuccessful. It *seems* they have, ignoring the commandment to the contrary, secretly coveted these pits from the very hour they were so decisively repulsed, and, if possible, determined to have them or, well, do something else. With this determination they attacked our lines yesterday morning, throwing forward their entire picket. Little did they dream of the treatment in store for them. That such an attack was expected at some time, is evident from the disposition made to meet it. The pickets of the right wing, holding the pits, were ordered to hold their position while the left should fall gradually back. It was hoped that the enemy, feeling exceedingly certain of bagging our retreating pickets, would not notice the gap which would thereby be caused in their line. And so it proved. On their left rushed, never noticing that the right had been checked, and they were not only detached, but gradually getting further and further within our lines. When they had got well into the trap, a part of the picket reserve slipped through the gap in behind the advancing foe. When fairly surrounded, they appreciated their danger, and tried to cut their way out, but 'twas no use. Their Colonel and many of his men having been killed, the remainder surrendered.

They proved to be a portion of the Twenty-second South Carolina Volunteers, Col. DANKING. The men who so neatly executed this well-devised plan, were dismounted cavalry, partly of the First District of Columbia Regiment. These men were armed with rifles shooting sixteen shots before they require loading.

Our loss was small—one killed, sixteen wounded; number of prisoners I have been unable to get.

After visiting all places of local interest, Mrs. Gen. BUTLER returned to Fortress Monroe to-day, by the steamer *John A. Warner*.

Deserters are absolutely flocking in. Whole squads arrive together, and sometimes in actual command of their officers. They report GRANT as being within four miles of Richmond. They express themselves as being perfectly satisfied that the end is near. Their formerly defiant tone is considerably modified, and when asked what they think of the state of affairs now, meekly answer, "May the right win." They have probably been taught to say, "The righteous man will prevail;" but, having forgotten the precise phraseology, hit as near to it as they can.

More heavy firing was heard, yesterday and this morning, in the direction of Richmond.

From Bermuda Hundred—Deaths at Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, June 3.

The enemy attacked Gen. BUTLER'S lines of defence, above Bermuda Hundred, on Wednesday evening, at 9 o'clock, and made a change with the evident intention of capturing our Parrott guns, but were repulsed with heavy loss. The fighting continued until near Thursday morning, when the enemy were driven back. Our loss was very slight.

The telegraph steam-tug *Gen. McClellan*, while near West Point, York River, yesterday, picked up the body of an unknown soldier, which was buried on shore. In his pocket was found part of an envelope, with the following imperfect address: "Mr. BENJAMIN, Co. B, Fifty-fifth Regiment, Port Royal."

Deaths in the McClellan Hospital, Thursday, June 2, 1864.—John Orr, 11th Penn.; R. B. Walters, 25th S. C.; S. A. Peck, 188th Penn.; George C. Edgarion, 169th N. Y.; Wm. Coley, 7th Conn.; Andrew Barney, 13th Mass.; Rodney G. Hawley, 8th Me.; J. S. Sicklecs, 9th N. J.

Admitted into the McClellan Hospital, Thursday, June 2, 1864.—George T. Wood, 24th Mass., wounded; Wm. Beil, 13th Ind., wounded; H. W. Wheller, 6th Conn., wounded; August Koehler, 6th Conn., wounded; D. S. Barber, 8th Me., wounded; C. M. Hodge, 6th Conn., chest; J. W. Plumb, hip; F. H. Bussy, arm; Wm. Sime, 24th Mass., leg; Charles Mallow, 1st N. Y. Rifles, side; H. J. Montagna, 1st U. S. Cadets, ankle; John Boyd, 48th N. Y., knee; Lewis R. Cook, 6th Conn., hand; E. G. Torry, 100th N. Y., wounded; M. Wormwood, 117th N. Y., sick.

The steamer *John A. Warner*, Capt. CONN, arrived at 5 P. M., from Bermuda Hundred, and reports that the enemy made a slight attack on our breastworks at 9 o'clock last evening, without effect, and retired. A Confederate Lieutenant and thirty privates that came in our lines yesterday arrived on the *John A. Warner*. The steamer *Ella Knight* has just arrived from White House and reports that there was heavy cannonading going on all day yesterday, and just before night the sound grew further off. There are no further particulars.

THE NINTH ARMY CORPS.

Incidents of the Battle-field—Death of Lieut.-Col. Chandler—The March Across the Pamunky.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HANOVERTOWN, PAMUNKY RIVER, Sunday, May 29, 1864.

I mentioned in my last letter that Lieut.-Col. CHANDLER, of the Fifty-seventh Massachusetts, was among the missing after the engagement of the 24th, between CRITTENDEN'S Division, of the Ninth Corps, and the enemy. In the heat of the battle, a grape-shot tore off his arm, and another wounded him in the side. One of his Captains immediately started with him to help him off the field. But they had gone but a few steps, before, being closely pressed by the rebels, CHANDLER told his companion that his wound was mortal, and commanded him, in order to preserve his life, to rejoin the regiment. CHANDLER then sat down, and, in the charge of the rebels, fell into their hands. From two deserters, who came the day after the engagement into our camp, I have learned that he died in about an hour after he was taken, and was buried on a hill-side near the enemy's works. The death of Lieut.-Col. PINSON, of the Sixth New-Hampshire, has also been reported to me by the Chaplain of his regiment. He was out in the line of skirmishers, and had just raised his field-glass to his eyes to examine the enemy's works before him, when the bullet of a sharpshooter grazed his lifted hand and pierced his forehead. He survived, in an unconscious state, about two hours. He was scarcely twenty-three years old, and that he was brave even to a fault, his exposing himself in the skirmish line amply proves, if proof indeed were needed.

How bravely Maj. MORTON, of the Engineer Corps, and Chief Engineer of Gen. BURNSIDE, bore himself in this engagement, is the admiration of the whole army. He was across the river with CRITTENDEN'S Division, engaged in examining the country with a view of laying out a road. His duties led him to the front, just as the Fifty-sixth Massachusetts was commencing to charge. Urged by the natural enthusiasm of a soldier, or by the desire that the troops should acquit themselves manfully, he put himself, as a volunteer, before the regiment. Placing his hat on his sword, and waving it over his head, he cheered the regiment on against a murderous fire. The soldiers needed not such encouragement, yet felt the stimulus of the inspiring example, and followed their impromptu leader with a shout that made the forest ring.

Private THOMPSON, Fifty-sixth Massachusetts, Co. D, an Irishman and an old soldier, is just now the favorite in the hospital where he lies wounded. He served in the Crimea and through the Indian campaigns against the Sepoys. He was one of the first to enter the Redan, when it was finally carried by the English, and received a bullet wound in his head, which, for a time, disabled him for service. With wonderful vivioness, he described to me the condition of Cawnpore, when his regiment entered it, how the English women and children were hanging naked and disemboweled in the streets, how the wells were choked up and how the courts of the palace were filled with the dead bodies. In the battle of the 24th he leaped over a detached portion of the enemy's breastworks, shouting as though a company was following him, and took an officer and five privates prisoners. Soon afterward he received a gunshot wound in the ankle, and was sent to the rear. Yet before the fight was over, he appeared limping on the field, in search of his regiment. He was sent back peremptorily and is now in the division hospital.

The lines of the enemy on the North Anna were in the form of a triangle, about a mile west of the Fredericksburgh Railroad. Of this triangle the apex rested on the river, and two sides stretching toward the South Anna. The position was an admirable one, being as strong as that of the enemy at Spottsylvania Court-house. On the north, a steep wooded bank, two hundred feet high, and the river protected it; its flanks on the east and west were equally protected by heavy forests, ranges of hills and formidable breastworks. Incidents of the flank movement from the North Anna to the Pamonky, there were none. It was a hot, dusty and fatiguing march.

H. B.

Arrival of Wounded at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, June 4.

The steamer *State of Maine* arrived this morning, bringing up four hundred and twenty wounded from the late battles before Richmond. The steamer *Connecticut* also arrived to-day, having left the White House at 6 o'clock yesterday morning, with eight hundred and seventy-nine sick and wounded.

The Pennsylvania Reserves Homeward Bound.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, June 4.

The Third Division of the Fifth Army Corps passed through Washington this evening on their way home to Pennsylvania, their time of service having expired. They comprise the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Pennsylvania, (Bucktails,) and the First, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Reserves. They presented a war-worn appearance, with tattered flags. They were greeted with the waving of handkerchiefs, etc., as they moved on to the railroad station.

FROM CAIRO.

Steamer Hillmann Fired Into—Forrest at Corinth—Projected Raid on Sherman's Rear—Gen. Canby Organizing for the Offensive.

CAIRO via ST. LOUIS, Friday, June 3.

The steamer *Alice Dean*, from Memphis for Cincinnati, has passed up with 600 bales of cotton.

The steamer *Hillmann* is reported to have been fired into at Island No. 25, while on the way to Memphis. The result has not been learned.

The body of Paymaster WINANS, drowned at Mound City, was recovered to-day.

The rebel Gen. FORREST is reported at Corinth. A large number of his men are deserting. It is expected that FORREST intends making a raid on Gen. SHERMAN'S rear.

Gen. CANBY is at Natchez, organizing his forces for offensive operations.

THE RECENT FIRE AT MOUND CITY.

CAIRO, Saturday, June 4.

Three safes were to-day recovered from the wreck of the naval wharf boat burned at Mound City. One of them, Paymaster DUNN'S, contained $168,000, in a good condition, though rather damp. The contents of another, amounting to several thousand dollars, were ruined, except the books, which were somewhat charred. Admiral PORTER attributes the origin of the fire to a stroke of lightning.

Paymaster BAGG remains in a critical condition. Should he recover it is feared he will lose the use of his hands.

From California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, June 2.

There is a fair demand for money to-day upon satisfactory paper. Brokers discount first-class at 1½ per cent. per month. Money has accumulated moderately and the market is easier. The deposits in of bullion in the Branch Mint during the past ten days amount to near a million dollars, and considerable accessions to the currency are coming from that quarter. Mining stocks are greatly out of favor, and holders who want money upon them find great difficulty in negotiating. GOULD & CURRY, $29@$29 75 per foot; Ophir $8 30.

SAILING OF THE ST. LOUIS—MINING AFFAIRS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, June 3.

The steamship *St. Louis* sailed to-day with 145 passengers and $1,338,400 in treasure, over a million being for England.

The brokers here decline to coöperate with the Washoe brokers to effect a change of currency.

The demand for money is active. Currency bills 68c.@70c. premium.

GOULD & CURRY'S dividend for May is one hundred and twenty-five dollars per foot.

Arrived, ship *Collingwood*, Melbourne.

Capture of a Blockade-Runner.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, June 4.

The Navy Department has received information of the capture, off Wilmington, of the steamer *Caledonia*. She is a sidewheel steamer, very long, 317 tons burthen, built and registered in Quebec, in 1863, and was owned by A. KERRS, Jr., of Halifax, who acts as agent for the Confederates at Queenstown. She sailed from Queenstown for Wilmington.

The Pittsburgh Sanitary Fair.

PITTSBURGH, Saturday, June 4.

The Sanitary Fair is a great success. The attendance averages upwards of 25,000 daily, and the receipts thus far exceed $190,000. The monitor feature, where they have iron-clad fights and exhibit the model of Union guns, attracts universal attention.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Great Fire in New-Orleans—Eight Steamboats Burned—The Constitutional Convention—Health of the City.

The steamship *Morning Star*, Capt. H. L. HEPBURN, from New-Orleans May 28, via Havana May 31, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon, with 230 passengers and 1,000 bales of cotton. Purser FULLER reports that on the night of the 27th ult. a fire broke out among the steamers at the levee, near the foot of Canal-street, destroying eight river steamers and several sail craft—among which was the steamer *Empire Parish*, belonging to STOFFORD, THEBTON & Co.; the balance were river steamers, most of which have been in the Government service. Great injury was also done to the adjacent levee and wharf buildings. The *Morning Star* was compelled to get up steam, owing to her close proximity to the fire.

There was no military news of importance in New-Orleans. The army was said to be moving toward the Mississippi River. Gen. BANKS was in New-Orleans. He addressed the Constitutional Convention on the 27th ult., and was welcomed with great enthusiasm.

The *Picayune* newspaper had been temporarily suspended for issuing the bogus President's proclamation. The *Courrier Francais*, a French newspaper, had also been suspended.

Gen. HEBERT had returned to Texas to reassume command there.

Maj.-Gen. MCCLERNAND was lying dangerously sick at New-Orleans.

The health of the city was excellent, not one case of fever there. The greatest precautions have been taken to secure the health of the city by the military authorities.

We are indebted to Purser FULLER for the prompt delivery of our news packages.

OUR NEW-ORLEANS CORRESPONDENCE.

Military Affairs—Suspension of the Daily Picayune and the Courrier Francais—Col. James T. Tucker.

NEW-ORLEANS, Saturday, May 28, 1864.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The army here, or such portions of it as have returned, are at present in a state of quiescence, although it is evident that they will not long remain so, and that some movement of importance is already in contemplation. Of this army, under Gen. CANBY, you will, of course, get up-river news far more rapid and reliable, from your correspondents on the spot, than we can hope to send you hence.

REFRACTORY NEWSPAPERS.

Two days ago both the *Picayune* and the *Courrier Francais* were peremptorily stopped. The *Courrier* was the most active and daring organ of the French population. Scarcely a day passed without finding in its columns arguments and matter far more adapted to the latitude of Richmond or Montgomery than to that of New-Orleans. The fact is that the strongest hallucination pervades the minds of a large portion of the French population here, whether actually foreign or naturalized. Nothing can persuade them that they are in the United States, and not in France. Canal-street is as clear, and, morally, as wide a line of demarcation between the native and foreign portions of this city as is the Atlantic Ocean between our own shores and that of their native land. They forget altogether that Louisiana was bought and paid for, from the First NAPOLEON; or, if they remember it, they bolster themselves up with the idea that there is some magic clause in the treaty by which Frenchmen have a right to remain among us and do just what they please, under the protection of the mother country.

Not a few of them, too, are sustained in this delusion by the hope that some day or other Louisiana is yet destined to become the property of "the Nephew of his Uncle," who, to their eyes, is something more than mortal. You cannot, consequently, go into a *café* or public place in the French quarter, and hear a group of men talking politics, but precisely such language will greet you as you might expect to hear in any of the secesh rendezvous of Paris.

The *Courrier* was, unquestionably, the great fugleman and panderer to this unhealthy state of things. It went on until its editor was ordered away into Dixie, but in no manner seemed inclined to mend, until it "actually had the audacity" to single out several members of the State Convention—giving their names publicly—as worthy of personal violence. Gen. BANKS thought it about time to have the straight-jacket applied, for the good and safety of the community.

What particular thing the *Picayune* has done to bring it into immediate trouble, I am not aware, as it was an uninteresting little sheet that one was only tempted to glance at, on an average, about twice in six months. I have seen enough of it, however, to know that it was in systematic opposition to the authorities here, and that whenever it ventured to utter anything—which was very seldom indeed—it was sure to benefit Dixie more than the Union. Perhaps what sealed its doom was its issuing that "bogus proclamation" at 10 o'clock P. M., in the shape of a flaming extra, on Tuesday last, much to the amusement of those who had any acuteness of perception, and to the dismay of those good loyalists who had not. The pestiferous thing managed, at any rate, to throw the town in a tremendous state of excitement the whole of that night and the next day; and I have no doubt that many thousands of dollars changed hands on the truth or falsity of the document.

But the authorities have not yet done with this legitimate work of teaching the dress here that we are under the authority of the United States and not of JEFF. DAVIS. There is another French publication—the *Renaissance Louisiannaise*—a weekly production, in which I have often seen matter quite as offensive and dangerous as anything in the columns of the *Courrier*. It professes to give a rehash of all the events of the week, culled from rebel papers and their far more infamous Northern prototypes. I need not tell you that the dish regularly laid before its readers is highly seasoned with all sorts of abominable fabrications, to tell against the cause of the Union and in favor of the rebellion. When this sheet is silenced, as well as one or two others, which I do not read, but which I am told out-herod Herod, if Unionism is not thereby increased—which nobody expects—Unionists will at least be spared the insults and annoyances to which they are hourly subjected.

COL. JAMES T. TUCKER.

This young officer, the Private Secretary of Gen. BANKS, leaves us to-day for the North, on a prolonged stay for the benefit of his impaired health.

Col. TUCKER was for eight years connected with the Illinois Central Railroad, in which office he obtained the character of a first-class man of business, under the tuition and auspices of its President, W. H. OSBORN. An anecdote was related to me by an eye-witness, which was as creditable to master as to pupil. A week or two ago, two brothers, publishers, of New-York, of musical name and world-wide celebrity, passed through New-Orleans, where they formed a most agreeable acquaintance with Col. TUCKER. Struck by his rapid, pleasant and off-hand, but thorough mode of doing business, one of them was tempted to ask where the young gentleman received his business-education. "From W. H. OSBORN, of the Illinois Central," was the reply. "No wonder," said the questioner; "I defy any one to be one year with OSBORN without becoming a first-rate man of business." Col. TUCKER came out with Gen. BANKS, in December, 1862, on board the *North Star*, and has remained with us ever since.

NEMO.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

SPEECH OF GEN. BANKS.

On May 27, Gen. BANKS, accompanied by his staff, paid a visit to the Constitutional Convention, and in response to a welcoming speech from the President, made the following address:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION: No convocation of such intelligence and character as that in the presence of which I now stand could do otherwise than impress me with feelings of respect and awe, devoted as you are—as I know and as I have been told by your President—to the development of measures for the restoration and preservation of our Government. There is scarcely a higher duty with which gentlemen can be charged than that of providing for the legislation of the future. The legislation of the day is enough to tax the energies and wisdom of almost any class of men; but to him, or to them, to whom it is committed, by the organization of constitutional government, to shape the destinies of half a century, is charged with a duty of which he or they may be proud, and, if well and wisely performed, will obtain honors which can rarely fail to any other class of men. They give, as BACON said of the law-givers of England, "to God that which to Him pertaineth, to Cæsar that which is CÆSAR'S, to the subject that which belongs to the subject." [Applause.] Sir, I always feel a deep interest in assemblies of this character. The most cautious, the most interesting, and, let me say, the most satisfactory part of my life was passed as a member of an assembly of this kind. When I look over the broad fields of legislation of this country and see what has been accomplished by these constitutional assemblies, what States have been created, what cities and towns have grown up as it were in a night, what power, prosperity and peace, have been sown broadcast over this continent, I feel it is indeed one of the greatest privileges that could be conferred upon men to participate in such labors. But in a kind of revolution it is perhaps of higher import than in any other, while in every other part of this country, men are ranked against men in arms, seeking amid the deadly strife of war for supremacy. You sit in peaceful assembly to reconstruct the Government which has been rent asunder by revolution and treason. If you accomplish this work, the people of this country must hold you forever in grateful remembrance. I know, Sir, I have no right to trespass on your attention, or interrupt your deliberations. I may say, however, that the progress of this Convention has given me the greatest satisfaction. I know that the problems submitted to your decision are not to be solved in a moment. I know perfectly well that not only deliberation but patience and the lapse of time are necessary to the completion of your work, and if it be done well, I say to you with the utmost satisfaction, that I shall accord to you the highest honor. The Act of Emancipation contains words as fitting and proper to that great body [as can be found in the whole circle of English literature. [Great applause.] The closing article of that act, which declares that "The Legislature shall hereafter pass no laws recognizing property in man" exemplifies the wisdom of man, and carries into effect the law of God. He gave to man supremacy over the beast and the bird, and the brute creature, but the title of lord over man He retained to Himself alone, and never created in His image, of whom it may be said, or to whom it should be said, that he was lord over the creatures of God. That, sir, is enough, but you will do more. In taking this position, the Convention is compelled to follow, and the legislators that will succeed will also be compelled to follow in completion of the work so honorably begun. Sometimes when I am riding along the Mississippi, and the majestic stream that passes you, and which in the end will be found to have bound this continent together against all the machinations of men to destroy the union of States, I feel as if prosperity and power were limited to the country through which it passes. When its rolling flood leaps from its bed, and breaks in upon the prosperous and beautiful plantations that line its banks, you seek to restrain the torrent and reëstablish your control over its waters. But you cannot again reëstablish the levee where it stood. You must build it upon new ground, bring to it new supports and make it cover new elements of power, to fit it with the great currents of time. Revolutions swell their turbid waters; they deluge and desolate the country; and when you come to repair the damage that has been done, you find you cannot reëstablish the ancient boundaries again. It is immaterial what may be the opinions of men; you must take new ground; gather new elements of power, and bring to your support elements of strength that may have been disregarded as unnecessary. This, sir, is a lesson which it is just for us to consider. In the restoration of the constitutional forms of your Government, you are compelled to go beyond the lines which were occupied by you before. You must take in new elements of strength and give to the institutions that you are to establish, a broader basis than your States have before known. Of this you have given evidence yourselves. The Act of Emancipation is a great and parent act of wisdom. The education of the people and the extension of franchise hereafter, will be objects that will attract the attention of the country and you will have the proud satisfaction of knowing that while you have done what is necessary for you to do in this generation, those that succeed to your work and follow your example, will soon be compelled to carry out your ideas in the future. We have witnessed the vindication of the freedom of the Mississippi; we have participated in the creation of a free State, and we must now proclaim the measures necessary to maintain the prosperity and happiness of a free people. That is glory enough for any State, and honor enough for any representative of the people. [Great enthusiasm.]

THE GREAT FIRE—EIGHT STEAMBOATS BURNED.

From the New-Orleans Times, May 28.

Last night, about 9 o'clock, commenced one of the most disastrous fires that has ever occurred in this city. It appears that the fire originated in the ladies' cabin of the steamer *Black Hawk*, lying at the foot of Canal-street.

Lieut. J. E. MOUSSIER, in charge of the *Black Hawk*, stated that, hearing the alarm of fire, he ran toward the *Black Hawk*; that as he was about to go on board, and before he had crossed the gangway-plank, a man, running with great speed, brushed by him. He called after him, but he ran at such speed that he was soon out of reach. He was dressed in black, with a yellow duster, a black slough hat, and was of medium size.

By the time Lieut. MOUSSIER reached the cabin to get his portmanteau, the whole of the latter part of the boat, as far as the wheel-house, was partially burned. The *Meteor*, lying alongside and close to the *Black Hawk*, soon caught, and the flames spread with such unusual rapidity, and burned with such fury, that in a few moments the *Black Hawk*, *Meteor*, *Time & Tide*, *Belle Creole*, *Belle Lee*, *Fawn* and *New-Orleans* were a mass of flames. It appears that it was only through the most culpable negligence that the *Empire Parish* was burned. She was so far from the *New-Orleans* and *Fawn* that a few buckets of water might have saved her. While the *Empire Parish* was in flames, and when surrounded by an immense crowd of the usual lookers-on, a crash was heard. Another explosion apparently ensued. By every one on board the *Time and Tide* yelled, and a panic took place. Such a tumbling over boxes and barrels—such a scampering, skedaddling and general row, has seldom taken place. Men, women, boys, girls—all rushed in one mass, pell-mell, helter-skelter. Some fold soldiers, no doubt, lay flat on their faces, some crouched behind an adjacent woodpile, and altogether, the general row and confusion that occurred was indescribable.

The steamers burned themselves adrift, one by one floating out into the stream. In a few moments the eight noble steamers were destroyed, nothing but their skeletons remaining.

It is believed that when the explosion occurred on the *Empire Parish*, a man fell through a hole in the wharf and was drowned.

Two schooners moored at the Picayune tier took fire from the *Empire Parish*, and floated out into the stream.

This fire is little short of a calamity to New-Orleans and the coast parishes, interrupting, as it does a large intercourse of trade. About five hundred persons are, by this disastrous fire, deprived of the means of earning their daily bread. It will be reckoned among the calamities of the City. We are not authorized to say that the fire was the work of an incendiary, though the statement of Lieut. MOUSSIER would appear to give strength to such an assertion. Every one of these steamers had been recently chartered by Government, a fact which gives color to the suspicion of incendiarism.

The total loss will considerably exceed $300,000 reckoning the loss on freight at $50,000.

The *Black Hawk* was loaded with Government freight, and was to leave to-day. She was owned by Capt. PITKIN; commanded by Capt. BACKHAUS, and was worth about $35,000.

The *Empire Parish* had a fair freight, and was to leave to-day. She was owned by W. J. RAIN & Co., and commanded by Capt. BOUCHARDY. She was worth about $45,000.

The *Meteor* had been laid up for a long time, and had no freight on board. Her last commander was Capt. JOHNSON. She was worth about $35,000.

The *Fawn* had just come from Thibodaux, and had just commenced unloading a full freight when she caught fire. She was owned by Capt. W. R. GARRISONS, and commanded by him. The Captain stated that he was offered $44,

THE PRESIDENTIAL QUESTION.

Re-eligibility of President Lincoln.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The time not being far distant when the people of this country will be called upon to elect a Chief Magistrate, who shall guide the helm of State and conduct the nation onward to the haven of honor and peace, and conserve those liberties and laws vouchsafed to us by the sacred blood of our sires, it behooves us as lovers of country, as cherishing hopes of the ultimate salvation of the Union, to ponder wisely and well the dangers, shoals and pitfalls that await the future, if apathy and venality be substituted for virtue and patriotism by the American people.

We must act with prudence and zeal, with wisdom and earnestness, and clear the way for the glorious dawning of Justice, that even now begins to glimmer through the misty veil of darkness and error.

The hazard is not small, nor the responsibility light, to remove one who, with unimpeachable honesty and self-sacrificing devotion, has for four years surmounted every impending exigency, and carried us thus far through a crisis unexampled in the history of the world; even were we to elect a man of equal integrity and merit. For to adopt a fundamentally opposite course of administration from that pursued by his predecessor would be thought by a successor the surest way to prove his own capacity, upon the commonsense hypothesis that the reason of his predecessor's dismissal proceeded from a dislike to his policy. It would at least recommend him to all the adversaries of the past Administration. And this would of necessity occasion a mutability of purpose, injurious, if not ruinous, to the country's cause.

The old adage, that experience is the parent of wisdom, is admitted and recognized as true by the wisest as well as the simplest of mankind. And certainly this is most desirable in a President and those in authority. Says HAMILTON in the *Federalist*:

"Without supposing the personal essentiality of the man, it is evident that a change of the Chief Magistrate, at the breaking out of a war, *or any similar crisis*, for another of equal merit, would at all times be detrimental to the community, *inasmuch as it would substitute inexperience for experience, and would unhinge and set afloat the already settled train of the Administration.*"

It is patent that the varied experience of the present Executive should not be lightly considered. To remove him now would be equivalent to banishing merit from the public councils, because it had been tried. It would be strange logic to say that when wisdom, from long experience is acquired, the possessor should no longer be enabled to use it for the very purpose for which it was acquired.

And who can say that his successor would not commit errors during the first twelve months as gross as President LINCOLN committed, were he obliged to decide as novel, as imminent questions?

His policy is now clearly understood and generally approved, except, perchance, by those who have a proneness for billingsgate or splenetic censure—and any one can deride or scoff—not possessing heart and brains true and sound enough to originate and direct.

Let us briefly review some of the acts of the President; draw conclusions as to the condition of the country when he assumed the duties of his office; as to his exercise of certain powers, which were thought by some to be in derogation of the Constitution; and as to his policy toward the establishment of the Union and universal freedom on this Continent.

I. Called to the highest office in the gift of the people, while loud-mouthed treason stalked in open day—in the South, in the North, at the national capital—plotting with vengeance for its destruction, as well those who dared to stand forth as its defender, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, with serene calmness, pronounced his Inaugural Address. Couched in sentiments wisely conceived, conservative, noble, he avowed it his heartfelt wish and intention that every citizen, community, State should be protected under his administration, and have every constitutional right intact guaranteed. He declared in unequivocal terms, (as expressed in his campaign speeches of '58,) that he had no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with Slavery in the States, and believed he had no lawful right to do so; that the property, peace, and security of no section should be in anywise endangered, but that the power confided to him would be used to hold, occupy, and possess property and places belonging to the Government, collect the duties and imposts, as he had sworn to do.

One paper pronounced the address "sectional and mischievous," adding, "if it means what it says, it is the knell and the requiem of the Union, and the death of hope." Another averred that his measures meant war. But the *Boston Post* (a BUCHANAN organ,) thought the Conservatives would be glad to see the opening avowals of the address. The pledge not to interfere with Slavery in the States; the denunciations of lawless invasion of those States; the avowal to protect Slavery in case of a servile insurrection; and the promise to carry into effect the fugitive slave obligation, seem to come up to the requirements of the Constitution.

By the light of our past history, we say with due consideration that no inaugural could have been enunciated at that time more just, conciliatory, and in accordance with the Constitution.

While these sentiments were being uttered, and yet reverberating through the land, the hotspur State of South Carolina, having three months before declared its own dismemberment from the Union, was preparing to defend that treasonable act, and marshaling for the conflict.

On the 12th day of April following, Fort Sumter was bombarded, Maj. ANDERSON and his feeble garrison compelled to surrender, leaving the State complete control of Charleston Harbor, six of the slaveholding States having meantime placed themselves in battle array. Their grievances did not, certainly, justify their acts. The Vice-President of the Confederacy, so-called, ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, told the South in December, 1860, that they had *no cause to secede*; "the State," he said, "should wait until he (President LINCOLN) at least does some unconstitutional act."

In times of peace Congress has no power whatever to interfere with Slavery in the States, and if the slaveholding States had not seceded, and this Administration had abrogated the Constitution, or attempted the abolishment of Slavery, such an act would have united a majority of the free States in the cause and rights of the South.

While all this was transpiring, how stood the Federal Government for its own defence? Alas! waking from its syren slumbers on the morning of the retiring of its evil genius, it found itself paralyzed. Without a navy, nearly every vessel of war having been dispatched on some frivolous mission to Yeddo or elsewhere, by the quasi traitor, then acting as Secretary of that department, without an army, with barely guns or ammunition enough to equip ten regiments; in short, devoid of a requisite force to quell a riot like that in New-York last July, much less a rebellion of such magnitude.

Never has there been a time in the history of this country that demanded such unalloyed patriotism, and, thank God, the President asked not in vain, for patriots hastened to the rescue, with the glory of WARREN in their hearts, and his song upon their lips, *Dulce et decorum est pro patriâ mori.*

Men seemed to rise out of the ground even, as a Roman General declared they would, at a critical hour of that Republic, were he but to stamp with his foot. Loyal hearts were electrified! And noble, generous, brave were those men who crowded foremost to proffer their services in support of the nation's life. And dastardly traitors they who assaulted them in the streets of Baltimore, doubtless over-chagrined at having been unable to foil the progress of President LINCOLN as he passed by them six weeks before.

Providence so ordained that above the wily machinations and overt acts to frustrate the arm of the Government, *the people* in their majesty rose and quelled this inimical spirit, and the nation survived the shock.

It would avail nothing to speak of the oligarchs who held office when certain States seceded.

It would avail nothing to speak in terms of reprehension or revenge of that poor old man who remained passive, while treason reveled in the Capitol, raising not a finger to keep inviolate the Constitution which he had sworn to protect. We are here reminded of the old maxim: *De mortuis nil nisi bonum.* But let him remain forever in Lethe's stream.

II. In discussing the exercise of certain powers, which were thought by some to be unconstitutional or unwarrantable, we shall endeavor to present their peculiar efficacy, citing authorities in support of them.

President LINCOLN'S first call for seventy-five thousand men was considered as extralimitary—Gov. JACKSON, of Missouri, and LETCHER, of Virginia, refusing to respond with their quotas—as though the Constitution demanded the end, yet denied the means of preservation; when, in fact, the Supreme Court of the United States have decided that the President had the exclusive right to judge of the exigency.

President MADISON held the same opinion in his message to Congress; and the Act of 1795, providing the mode of calling forth the militia, was framed upon this principle. There is no provision made for an appeal from, or review of, the President's opinion—being under the general authority to *provide for the common welfare.*

President LINCOLN'S magnanimous policy of gradual emancipation, contained in his message to Congress, the 6th day of March, 1862, was both wise and judicious, embodying a resolution in effect that the United States ought to coöperate with any State which might adopt a gradual abolishment of Slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State in its discretion, to compensate for the inconvenience, public and private, produced by such change of system. Not only recommending that pecuniary aid be given, but that it be used at the option of such State. This timely suggestion, we believe, will be remembered with pride when the storm of war is ended and the calm of peace returns.

Whatever his adversaries may do or say to impugn his motives, they will fail to compromise his practical, moral advancement toward the right basis for a republican government. We are reminded here of the beautiful sentiment of SCHILLER: "Give the world beneath your influence a *direction* toward the good, and the tranquil rythm of time will bring its development."

The abolishment of Slavery in the District of Columbia—something over three thousand slaves—was also a moral stride, for which posterity will honor ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Were you to ask has he prudence? we would recall his Proclamation of September 22, 1862, giving notice of his *intention* to recommend to the next Congress a policy of gradual or immediate abolishment of Slavery, tendering pecuniary aid to the free acceptance or rejection of the Slaveholding States; and that, if any State should be in rebellion on the 1st day of January following, all persons held as slaves within such States, or any designated part of a State, should be *then thenceforth and forever free.* Likewise, he issued a confirmatory proclamation, designating the States then in rebellion. And we have palpable assurance and his word for it that he has done no official act in mere deference to his own abstract judgment or feeling on Slavery. That proclamation issued by President LINCOLN to cripple the lever power, and clip the main spring of the rebellion, should be sustained by every true lover of the Government. He might well have said:

> If you know better rules than these, be free,
> Impart them; but if not, use these with me.

The constitutional right of the President to issue that order, is sustained by authority. PATRICK HENRY opposed the present Constitution, on the ground that it gave Congress the power to abolish Slavery:

"One of the great objects of this Government," said HENRY in the Virginia Convention, "is the national defence. All the means in the possession of the people must be given to the Government which is intrusted with the public defence. At some future time Congress will search the Constitution to see if they have not the power of manumission. And have they not, Sir? Have they not the power to *provide for the general defence and welfare?* May they not think that these call for the abolition of Slavery? May they not pronounce all slaves free? The Constitution speaks to the point; they have the power in clear, unequivocal terms, and they will certainly exercise it."

But a higher authority still on this point is JOHN QUINCY ADAMS. In a speech delivered in the Senate of the United States, in April, '42, he said:

"I might furnish a thousand proofs to show that the pretensions of gentlemen to the sanctity of their municipal institutions under a state of actual invasion and (of actual war, whether servile, *civil or foreign*, is wholly unfounded, and that the laws of war do, in all such cases, take the precedence. I lay this down as the law of the nation. I say that military authority takes, for the time, the place of all municipal institutions, *and Slavery among the rest*; and that, under that state of things, so far from its being true that the States where Slavery exists have the exclusive management of the subject, *not only the President, but the commander in the army*, has the power to order the universal emancipation of the slaves."

On that occasion he desired an answer from the Opposition, and no one offered to refute it. If, then, power is vested in the Congress or President to abolish Slavery in times of war, the Emancipation Proclamation of January first, 1863, is constitutional and cannot be abrogated. And this we lay down as law, that any attempt, by a body of men or a State, to arrest its operation, on the ground that in their opinion such act is unconstitutional, is a direct usurpation on the just power of the Government, and on the right of the States, and a proceeding essentially revolutionary in its character.

The President exercised the right of conscription, as granted to him by act of Congress, approved on the third day of March, 1863, for which he was denounced as a usurper, though he was empowered to do this, by your representatives, if the exigency should arise, for it were idle to wait weeks, perhaps, months, until Congress could convene. And as a legal construction, whenever a statute gives a discretionary power to any person, to be exercised by him on his own opinion of certain facts, he is thereby constituted the sole and exclusive judge of the existence of those facts. The power to govern the militia, when in the service of the United States, is an exclusive one; for any such power concurrent in other authorities would destroy all unity of action and command.

The next act of importance was the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus—on the 15th of last September. This right also was delegated to the President, by a statute approved by Congress. It was censured in severest terms as jeopardizing the liberties of the people; when the undeniable truth was, that our army was then being drained and weakened daily by the lax system, and readiness of certain Judges in the free States to grant the writ without justification, and upon frivolous pleas discharge soldiers from duty. The act was both bold and timely, and proved to be most wise and beneficial. It gave strength and stability to our army in the field, and they applauded the President for it.

The only difference between the failure to suspend the writ during Mr. JEFFERSON'S administration, on the occasion of BURR'S conspiracy, and suspension of it last Fall was, that in the one case it was considered quite unnecessary, while in the other it was thought an absolute necessity. His Amnesty Proclamation of last December has also had a salutary effect.

III. Above and beyond the storm of censure and rancor, in bold relief is presented the unswerving honesty and humanity of President LINCOLN.

Were you to ask, has he sympathy? we would refer to his Christian act in traveling six miles at night, to save the life of a soldier, who, for sleeping while on duty, was condemned to be shot the following morning. And also, to his late speech at Baltimore, on retaliation. He therein not only displayed his charity, but kept in mind the laws of war; for, says a writer on international law, "If the enemy exceed those extreme rights, and becomes barbarous and cruel in his conduct, we cannot as a general thing follow and retort, by treating them in like manner."

Has he capacity, foresight, consistency? We would recall his course from the beginning of the war, and as enunciated by a recent letter (April 4, 1864,) to A. G. HODGES, Esq., of Kentucky. "By a general law," he says, "life and limb must be protected; yet, often a limb must be amputated to save a life; but a life is never wisely given to save a limb. I could not feel that to the best of my ability, I had ever tried to preserve the Constitution, if to save *Slavery*, or any minor matter, I should permit the wreck of the Government, Country, and Constitution, all together."

He continues to say that, when early in the war Gen. FREMONT attempted military emancipation, he forbade it because he did not think it a necessity. That when, a little later, Gen. CAMERON, then Secretary of War, suggested the arming of the blacks, he objected, because he did not then think it a necessity. And that when, still later, Gen. HUNTER attempted military emancipation, he again forbade it, because he did not think the indispensable necessity had come. Shall we not, then, give him credit of being prudent?

Has he ambition? His acts prove a oneness of purpose, the maintenance of constitutional liberty. The Executive well knows that a Government is like a tent, the poles of which should be justice, the ropes equity, and the pins philanthropy, to insure it to stand forever against the blasts of adversity.

As justice is the hope of a nation, so is injustice its ruin. President LINCOLN, like the noble ARISTIDES, will leave a national legacy by name of the *Just.*

Through the crimson ordeal that we are passing, the radiant star of justice gleams, and lights the shield of Honor and Peace.

Men may still cling to their predilections with the tenacity of a drowning man to weeds; it will profit them nothing. And of what sanctity is this black temple of Slavery, that we should preserve it intact, and lose the name of Liberty, the blessings of a Republic?

The American people are solemnly determined to place the country upon a *true Republican basis*, which we hold it never has been nor never could be with an institution incorporated in its organic law so incompatible with freedom.

Truly sings the poet:

> For humanity sweeps onward; where to-day the martyr stands,
> On the morrow crouches Judas, with the silver in his hands;
> While the hooting mob of yesterday in silent awe return,
> To glean up the scatter'd ashes into History's golden urn.

The founders of this Government were impelled to believe, from the signs of the times, and this is admitted by ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, in his speech of March, 1861, that Slavery was in course of extinction, and would ere long be abolished in each and every State. Thus they mentioned this peculiar class as *persons bound to service for a term of years.*

And the President-making State of Virginia voted for the ordinance of 1787, which was prepared and presented by NATHAN DANE, of Massachusetts.

Surely, the men of that day were too far-sighted not to know that it were worse than idle to declare in the Constitution, that the *freedom of speech* should not be "abridged," if this system were to be perpetuated. The slaveholding States have ever abrogated that clause, and under their system we believe were obliged to abrogate it, for the vital reason that free speech would enlighten the slave, and enlightenment would give aspiration, and aspiration in the slave would endanger the safety of Slavery.

In conclusion, we believe, events have demonstrated that the wise policy of President LINCOLN has not only united the people upon republican, democratic principles, and inspired them to stand by him to the end, but has far advanced the age in the cause of universal liberty.

Russia has emancipated her millions of serfs since this, our struggle commenced; and the fifteenth day of April, 1864, will be ever commemorated with honor to the Czar—ALEXANDER II.

Finally, let us go forward with strong and cheerful hearts, conquering and to conquer, until treason shall shame to raise its Hydra-head, and achieve liberty and eternal peace for ourselves and our posterity. J. F. B.

MAY 27, 1864.

An Army View of the Subject.

NEW-ORLEANS, Thursday, May 19, 1864.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It may not be uninteresting to the public in the present juncture of affairs to have an army view of political matters, as discussed in the camp the and field by our citizen soldiery, as the quadrennial period approaches for the selection of the President of the nation.

It has always been the peculiar prerogative of every American freeman to have his voice heard on that important occasion. But now, for the first time in our history, hundreds of thousands of voters are absent from home, fighting for the very life of the country, and can exercise no influence in public opinion except through the press. True, the right of suffrage has been allowed to soldiers in the field by some of the States, but this will amount to nothing if *stay-at-home* politicians are to be un tickets merely for the army to register their votes, without their voices are felt in the nominating conventions selecting the candidate.

Fortunately, the sentiments of the citizen soldiers, without reference to former party ties, and the people, seem a *unit* for the reelection of our President, "honest Old ABE."

Indeed, it appears strange to one who has been with the army ever since the rebellion broke out, and has not mixed in home politics, that the idea should have ever entered the heads of Washington politicians and paper campaign Generals to supersede "Old ABE," who has *subordinated* every other consideration and theory to the success of the Union cause. As well might you propose to shoot down the Commander-in-Chief in his own camp, in the face of the enemy, on the eve of battle, as to expect the fighting soldiers of the Union to yield the *very point* on which the rebels inaugurated the rebellion. ABRAHAM LINCOLN must and shall be the *acknowledged* President of the whole country.

The supremacy of the Constitution and the elections held in conformity thereto must be fully vindicated, and prating Congressmen, who are wasting time and money to propagate their pet schemes about the negro and the reconstruction of State Governments, will learn that the sword *alone*, and the inevitable law of population spoken of by HENRY CLAY, must practically *settle* the great questions in controversy arising out of this "civil war."

Our Southern planters, dissatisfied with a Republic in which the laborer might occupy the highest place, thought the time had come to strike for *separation* and an aristocratic Government when ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the former "rail-splitter," was elected President of the United States.

By blind passion and folly, the Secessionists have destroyed the *very system* of Slavery they took up arms to perpetuate and propagate; and when this military power is broken, all that is necessary is to maintain military rule in the disaffected States, until by immigration or otherwise, a sufficient number of bona fide loyal people can be found to put again in operation the principles of self-government, eliminating the malign element of Slavery, which practically fell by the want of any *local* State authority to enforce the slave laws the moment they came in conflict with the war power of the National Government.

The divers Congressional plans, or undertaking to manage everybody's business South, by Government agency, when peace is established, is looked upon with little favor by men of *practical* common sense, who have witnessed the enormous sums already squandered on visionary projects in the cotton States, that in the end will only put money into the pockets of self-interested speculators, and doom the "negro race" to still harder servitude.

It is, therefore, that the army, who every day see these difficulties, have such unbounded confidence in the plain practical sense of the President, to lead to an *honest* solution of these questions, and feel indignant at the constant *carping* in Congress to embarrass him, together with the intrigues to defeat his reelection.

Congressmen, of course, have the same privilege as anybody else to advocate their own Presidential favorite, even if he has parceled out to them in advance the Presidential patronage for the next term; but when they combine to get up secret Presidential circulars, instead of passing the necessary tax bills to pay the soldiers, and waste their time in plotting to displace an honest chief magistrate, against whom not a single whisper has come up from the people, they should recollect that a day of reckoning is coming with their constituents.

It is a well-known fact that ABRAHAM LINCOLN was nominated at Chicago without the support of a *single* Congressman of his party, to break up the cliques of Presidential schemers, and certain of these gentlemen seem never to have forgiven the people *for* not consulting them, and have since made it their chief business to harass the President by vexatious proceedings, and now assume the right to dictate the policy of the approaching convention at Baltimore.

The people in their primary meetings have instructed their delegates as to their will,—let them beware of designing politicians embarrassing their action with *long resolutions* and Missouri quarrels about delegations. The indorsement of the war policy of the Administration and the proposed constitutional amendment to abolish Slavery, together with the admission of both sets of delegates from Missouri will get around the rough edges, and furnish malcontents no excuses.

Union and *not* division is wanted amongst all who come up to support the nominee of the Baltimore Convention, therefore *exclude* none who are there in good faith.

Such a consummation in harmony with the victories of GRANT, now ringing through the world, will teach the crowned heads of Europe that the Great Republic must be again respected and feared.

Ohio, in the present great crisis, has contributed the talents of her CHASE and her WADE, in the civil service, and her GRANT, ROSECRANS, SHERMAN, MCPHERSON, and SHERIDAN, with thousands of gallant soldiers in the field, and let her delegation at Baltimore fill the full cup of her glory, by being the first to *propose* the UNANIMOUS renomination of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the choice of her soldiers and her people. OHIO.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

Morality of the Present Monroe Doctrine and of Manifest Destiny, from a Mexican Point of View.

LETTER FROM DON RUFINO M. DE ALFARRERO Y CAMPEON.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

If you have the candor and boldness to publish what conflicts with the opinions of yourself and most of your readers, you will by giving this article a place in your journal, greatly oblige one who feels bound by ties of blood and long residence, to the unfortunate country most interested in the matter.

The Monroe Doctrine originally announced a stand taken by the United States against the Holy Alliance, when it contemplated aiding Spain to reconquer her colonies. The stand which, under the same watchword, your people now threaten to take, is to oppose any attempt which the more progressive Europe of this day may make to preserve the future independence of Mexico against Anglo-American rapacity, and to rescue her from the habitual anarchy of the last forty years; which latter duty the United States declined, when it was in her power to perform it.

Your country, Mr. Editor, was the first on this continent which established a separate nationality, in doing which she established a republican form of government. Those which followed her in the career of independence, all save one, followed her example as to government. Of the countries of the New World which released themselves from European dominion, Brazil alone retained monarchy, and she is the only one among them which has habitually been, and still is, peaceful and prosperous. But for the example of the United States the Spanish American countries when freed from European rule would, doubtless, have obeyed the instincts of their race, and adopted monarchy, like Brazil; and had they done so, we cannot doubt they would have prospered like her. The United States, then, is indirectly the cause of the republican anarchy which has so long prevailed throughout independent Spanish America; and your country, being the cause, feels bound, as it would seem, to see that anarchy perpetuated. The more apparent the unfitness of those countries for republican organization becomes, the more determined she grows that they shall have no other, whether they desire it or not; and the feeling is only increased when signs of the unfitness of such organization for herself even becomes developed. The curse her example imparted to Spanish America is coming home to roost, yet she would continue its imposition. This is the morality of the man at the gallows, who found company agreeable even there.

Your country, a few years ago, had it in her power to confer on Mexico, through a protectorate, a stable and wholesome government; for, though it could not have been a monarchy, and, though a republic cannot stand alone in that country, one might have stood if propped up by its nearest and strongest neighbor. Providence and position seemed to require of the United States this Christian duty; and its fulfillment would, probably, have saved both countries; for had the national mind been occupied with an outside mission so important, so absorbing as it would certainly have been, sectional passion could not have culminated in rebellion. But your country declined the duty, vowing, as it would seem, that no other power should ever perform it. This is the morality of the dog in the manger.

Mexico is evidently willing that NAPOLEON shall save her from anarchy, and preserve her future independence by means of monarchy, even though the new Sovereign be a Hapsburgh. Universal suffrage may speak false, but events cannot. Had Mexico resisted the present French invasion as energetically as she did those of her Spanish brethren and of her fellow republicans of the North, or as fiercely as her own factions have often resisted each other, it would have been the best vote she could have given against intervention and monarchy. But the ready adhesion given to the invader by the only classes in the country which can distinguish good from evil, shows, that to them the change is welcome, mingled though it may be with mortification, and the apathy of the masses indicates something more than indifference. Indeed, how can it be otherwise after the experience of the last forty years; if there be any capacity for reflection among that people, and I know that the classes entitled to representation are not devoid of it. Mexico, when she speaks through these classes, is evidently more anxious to be let alone by the United States than by France, for the interference of the latter promises life, while that of the former, if successful, she feels would eventually bring national death. In such a case the too anxious neighbor, if at the time overtasked with business at home, can well afford to obey the eleventh commandment, which is "Mind your own business."

I will not here discuss the motive or the abstract justifiableness of NAPOLEON'S movements. Great evil is often wrought by well-meaning acts, which the rule of right seems to warrant, and great good is at times brought about by measures prompted by ambition and forbidden by justice. I do not attempt to condemn the former nor defend the latter, but when the apparent wrong-doings gives results evidently beneficial to those most interested, and accepted as such by them, it is not for others to interfere.

But you will say, 'NAPOLEON interferes with us. He unblushingly announces that by inaugurating monarchy in Mexico, he wishes to do for her what we are now pouring out our best blood to do for ourselves. He is trying to save her nationality as we are trying to save ours. He wishes to found a stable Government which will enable her to resist future attempts at conquest by the United States." "This," the general voice of Congress, the press and the stump tell us, "cannot be borne; for we may hereafter find it desirable to extend our territory, and we cannot allow any increase of efficiency or strength in Mexico, any restoration of national health in the sick man to stand in the way of manifest destiny." This is the morality of him who covets his neighbor's house; but even so bad a rule may work both ways. Should rebellion triumph here as it has so often done in the republic that was modeled after yours.—should this great nation finally break into fragments, while Mexico becomes a consolidated and prosperous empire, she might find it desirable to extend her territory in this direction; but I would disown kindred with any Mexicans who were base enough to pray for the success of Slavery and treason merely to favor the future rapacity of his own people. The aspirations of manifest destiny are based on the golden rule of Satan.

"But," says the orator of buncome, "the stand we have taken in the Monroe Doctrine binds us to oppose all European interference in the governmental affairs of the New World; and our political creed, which means our political bigotry, forbids us to countenance any new monarchy therein."

There is a time for all things. There was a time for the Monroe Doctrine, but it is past; and whether it will ever return or not may depend on the prudence of refraining from things untimely. The perilous cant of the day on this subject shows too plainly that no man can serve his country and buncombe, any more than he can God and Mammon. The Monroe Doctrine was a declaration of power and determination, proper enough in its first utterance, when you had no dissensions within, and had, in addition to the countenance of England, a continent full of new Republics not yet exploded, to back you; but a nation threatened with dissolution at home, and scant of friends abroad, may, without degradation, change its tone. The Monroe Doctrine is now in a state of paralysis, and is likely to be killed outright if you seek to force action out of it while in that condition. Should the Union finally divide, that doctrine is forever dead; and nothing is more likely to kill both than some outside quarrel, which the floundering of the galvanized Monroe Doctrine would be more apt than anything else to bring on.

NAPOLEON has shown itching fingers for intervention here as well as in Mexico; and you would have felt them ere now, had he secured the coöperation of England. He will intervene without it, should provocation or policy demand it. What would more inevitably impose on him the necessity than an attempt to carry out practically the Monroe Doctrine as buncomb expounds it? I would not have the United States submit to any humiliation to avoid the intervention of united Europe, but merely to the duty of minding her own business, of which she has plenty on hand. The preponderance of the North, and her success in arms and finance, are not up to this time so great but that the armed intervention of a first-rate Power might be fatal to your hopes of a restored Union. What would repay you for the defeat of that hope? The continuance of Republican anarchy in Mexico, its establishment in Brazil, and the return of France to the reddest days of LEDRU ROLLIN, much as those blessings for others would be hailed by your benevolent people, would not all compensate them for the loss of national unity. One thing at a time is a good rule, when it refers to things of exceeding weight. A nation engaged in the greatest civil war ever known has little need of a foreign war with the mightiest of living potentates.

As for the repugnance of your people to the sight of a new monarchy in their vicinity, it is a thing which concerns them not, if Mexico prefers the change; and that she does, events are daily demonstrating. If you view the matter as one of faith and propagandism, and take up the cry of buncomb, that "our institutions are bound to rule this universal world," I can only say that the experience and conviction of the world has not positively decided yet that a Democratic Republic, especially if it be a shackling confederacy, is the best kind of government for all races of men. Experience shows it is not the best for Mexico; for, though she had, when a Spanish vice-royalty, apparently the worst type of government that could be invented, she found what was for her a worse one when she adopted yours. Experience has not quite demonstrated yet that such a Republic is the best kind of Government even for yourselves. The record of the world's experience tells us that most nations which have essayed the Republican system have been eventually compelled to take refuge in regal organization. As the chosen people of God were not of old exempted from this political necessity, it is not yet certain that the later chosen of Providence, the model Republic, will forever escape it. Ninety years is a brief span in the lifetime of a nation—too short to prove the durability of institutions, though long enough, in some cases, to show their frailty. The test that span affords your country, so far as it goes, gives admonition that, instead of preventing Mexico from getting a stronger government, you might better be seeking a stronger one for yourselves. The Constitution of the United States and that of the rebel Confederacy are almost identical, and, superficially viewed, seem equally weak; yet the North, though doubling the South in numbers and resources, equaling it in bravery, and far exceeding it in versatile efficiency, has been unable in three years to crush the latter, which in proportion to its means has waged war most efficiently of the two. Why is this? Because the two Governments, though alike in form differ in spirit, that of the South being in effect monarchy sustained by a governing class. But this you will say is caused by Slavery, which through the bond of a common but precarious interest, quickens and concentrates the political will of the wealthy and intelligent classes, thus keeping head and heels in their places. True, but this admission merely confesses that your form of government is so defective that a social curse improves it. Other and more wholesome devices could doubtless be found to do for you what Slavery and aristocracy have done for your present and former enemies; and another device than hereditary succession I opine might save you from the revolution (for such it now is) that you have to pass through every four years. But how to remedy the defect, or how to keep off the remedy, when, through the force of events, it threatens to come of itself, is your business not mine. It would be sad indeed, if, after preventing the inoculation of Mexico, you should take the disease in the natural way yourselves; but in such case I could hardly pray for your escape of the risk, since monarchy, like the small-pox, is apt to give longer life to those whom it does not kill.

None of your readers will openly assent to such anti-fourth-of-Julyism as is here written, though many will doubtless be conscious of its truth; and so it would be, I presume, if the latter KNEW they constituted three-fourths of the community, for the noisy creed of the remainder would be that public opinion so dreaded in this land of free conscience. But though I am certain no reader will assent, I am curious to ascertain if any editor will dare publish, and as the best way of finding out, send the article to the address that heads it.

RUFINO M. DE ALFARRERO Y CAMPEON.

AFFAIRS IN THE WEST.

The Union State Convention—Opposition Conventions—Ladies' National Covenant—Miscellaneous.

Correspondence of the New-York Times:

CHICAGO, Monday, May 30.

UNION STATE CONVENTION.

The Union State Convention was held in Springfield last week. The telegraph has already apprised you of its general results. It was one of the largest delegated conventions ever held in the West—there being about seven hundred delegates present, representing one hundred and one counties—Ford, a new county, being the only one absent. The deliberations and actions of the convention were characterized by great harmony, and the results cheerfully acquiesced in. The choice of a candidate for Governor turned upon one of those "arrangements" with which we so frequently meet in politics. The Northern part of the State almost unanimously supported Adj.-Gen. FULLER, with the exception of Cook County, which, with its forty-nine delegates, held the balance of power between OGLESBY and FULLER. But this county had a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, in whose interests the delegates were chosen. The North could not have both candidates, and, therefore, our delegation supported OGLESBY, and received support for their own candidates in return. Gen. OGLESBY is but little known here, while Gen. FULLER is well known, and doubtless the first choice of eight-tenths of the Union voters of Cook County. And then, I have no recollection of a Governor of this State ever being located north of Springfield, except Gov. MATTESON, who subsequently to his election became a permanent resident of that city. But the ticket, as a whole, is a good and popular one, and will be elected. There was no second voice or choice in the convention in regard to the Presidency. Mr. LINCOLN was the candidate of all present. One of the peculiarities of the times is the nomination of Col. JOHN DOUGHERTY, of Union County, as one of the Presidential electors at large. He has heretofore been styled "the wheelhorse of the Democracy," in Egypt, and was Marshal for the Southern District under BUCHANAN. But Democracy is not "as it was," and consequently its best men will not have it "as it is." The nominee for Congressman at large, Hon. S. W. MOULTON, of Shelby, is also a war Democrat, able and influential. In the extreme Southern District, now represented by W. J. ALLEN, familiarly called "Josh. Allen," in the bar-rooms, of which he is a great patron, Hon. A. J. KUYKENDALL, another old Democrat war-horse, but a true and staunch Union man, will be put on the course, and elected, too.

Full returns from the Fifth—LOVEJOY'S—district have been received. They are: INGERSOLL—Union—12,988; WEBB—Op., with a c.—7,677. Union majority, 5,309. Mr. LOVEJOY'S majority was small, only a few hundred, I believe.

THE OPPOSITION NATIONAL CONVENTION

Failing to secure a hall in which to hold their National Convention, which is to meet in Chicago on the Fourth of July, the local committee have resolved to erect an amphitheatre on the locality where the great Canal Convention was held last year. The building is to be 628 feet in circumference, 200 feet in diameter, and 22 feet high, and capable of covering 15,000 persons. As the Convention meets on a public holiday, doubtless a large crowd will be attracted to see and hear what the Vallandighams, the Woods and the Voorhees, have to say and do. The show will undoubtedly be a rare one—men trying to see how near they can be traitors and escape the penalty of treason.

THE ECONOMICAL MOVEMENT.

The ladies of this city had another *tremendous* meeting on Saturday afternoon, for the purpose of perfecting the organization of the economical movement, which was inaugurated in Washington. Many of our first-class people participated in this meeting—among whom was Mrs. Senator TRUMBULL. I also noticed among the gentlemen who were present and active, Mr. J. V. FARWELL, who is at the head of the largest wholesale dry goods house in the West. The proceedings of the ladies were very moderate and very sensible, and the following "covenant" was adopted:

"For three years or during the war, we pledge ourselves to each other and the country, to purchase no imported goods where those of American manufacture can be substituted.

We furthermore pledge ourselves to purchase no articles of foreign importation contained in the list appended to the covenant, which are:

Dress goods of velvet, silks, grenadines, India crape and imported organdies, India lace and Brocha shawls, furs, wrought laces and embroideries, jewelry, watches, and precious stones, hair ornaments, fans, artificial flowers and feathers, carpets, furniture, silks and velvets, painted china, ormolu, bronze, marble ornaments and mirrors."

The meeting also passed a resolution unanimously hat they would buy goods of no one whose loyalty o the Government is questionable. Every one ought to act upon this principle.

VARIOUS THINGS.

The Chicago Board of Trade has adopted a plan for its new Chamber of Commerce. The structure is to be 93 feet wide and 180 feet deep—to cost $200,000. It is to be built plain and substantial. The successful architect is Mr. EDWARD BURLING, of this city.

The new enrollment is in progress in this city. The list of names of those liable to do military duty will be greatly increased, as compared with the last. Several persons have been arrested and held to bail for resisting the enrollment in one way or another.

Rev. C. B. THOMAS, the principal actor in the *scamp.* case noticed a few weeks since, has been "silenced" by the formal action of the First Unitarian Church of this city, of which he was pastor, for "having violated the laws of God and society, and therefore become unworthy the name of a christian man."

I met a man from northern Georgia a few days ago, from near Atlanta. He says that the rebels have no strongly fortified place below Dalton. They have intrenchments, but nothing near as formidable as those from which SHERMAN has driven them. He paid $8,000 in Confederate paper for $460 in gold, just before he left.

A sad mishap has befallen one of our cotton speculators, Mr. MCGINNIS, son-in-law of Gov. MATTESON, and of the firm of MCGINNIS, FOWLER & BAKER—the latter a nephew of Mrs. LINCOLN—went down to the Red River country with a large amount, his partners say $500,000 in gold and greenbacks, to purchase cotton. But he, with all his funds, has fallen a rich prey to a band of guerrillas, whereat nobody weeps very copiously.

Rev. E. H. CHAPIN, one of your pulpit celebrities, is lecturing in this city for benevolent objects, with decided success.

There is no relaxation in the business of our city. The receipts of grain are becoming more liberal as prices advance. On Saturday they were flour, 4,616 bbls.; wheat, 61,000 bushels; corn, 114,500 bushels; oats, 31,000 bushels. The country appears to be nearly bare of rye and barley. We still have good reports from the growing wheat crops. The weather for the past few days has been extremely cold for the season; very unfavorable to corn prospects.

The $300 Exemption.

Provost-Marshal-General FRY has written the following reply to Hon. WM. G. STEELE, of New Jersey, construing the $300 exemption for commutation for the draft:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20, 1864.

Hon. Wm. G. Steele, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: In reply to your inquiry of this date, as to length of time to which the payment of commutation money exempts a man from liability to service, I have the honor to state that the language of the law seems to me to make the subject plain. The law says, "If any drafted person shall hereafter pay money for the procuration of a substitute under the provisions of the act to which this is an amendment, such payment of money shall operate only to relieve such person from draft in filling that quota." If it should be necessary to make several drawings of names in order to fill that quota, that is to say, the quota already assigned, the person paying commutation money will be exempt, on account of such payment, from all the drawings to fill that quota made subsequent to the one in which he was drawn, and for which he paid the commutation. I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. FRY, Provost-Marshal-General.

THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD are running Excursion trains as far as River Head, and are carrying crowds of people. We are informed that under the present management this road is giving entire satisfaction to everybody.

THE CAMPAIGN---ITS PRESENT ASPECTS

OPINIONS FROM ABLE AND TRIED SOURCES.

The Operations of Gen. Grant.

From the U. S. Army and Navy Journal.

Two years and a few days ago the battles of Hanover Court-house and Fair Oaks were fought, the one a few miles in advance of the right flank of the present position of the Army of the Potomac, the other across the Chickahominy, not far from its present left front. Practically, the Army of the Potomac occupies to-day the same position that it did just previous to these two engagements. If any proof were in this late day needed of the inviolability of those general laws of military strategy which it was so much the fashion in the early periods of this war to decry, it would be found in the fact that every campaign occurring within the comparatively limited sphere of operations contended over by the Armies of the Potomac and of Northern Virginia, has of necessity taken routes nearly, if not precisely, similar and leading toward one or two decisive points.

Richmond, the decisive point in all aggressive campaigns in Virginia, is once more within sight of the much-enduring, much-abused, but ever-faithful and gallant Army of the Potomac; an army whose fighting record will go down in history as unparalleled in ancient and modern warfare, save by that misguided but brave foe with whom for three years it has contended with varying fortune. Twice in that period has the Army of the Potomac had to fight for the safety of our Northern capital upon Northern soil, and nobly at Antietam and Gettysburgh did it redeem the trust reposed in it. Once before in bold onslaught it has threatened the enemy in his leading stronghold, and if it retired baffled from the contest, it showed at Malvern Hill that, though forced to fall back, it was not yet beaten; though diminished in numbers, its spirit and its bravery made it still a foe not to be despised.

We are now entering upon a campaign parallel to the Peninsular campaign of 1862. A series of operations preliminary in character and calculated only to produce that relative position of both armies which we now see has just been completed. Yet in the ferocity of the conflicts these operations necessitated; in the endurance of the troops under fatiguing marchings; in the brilliancy with which our young, and, in such responsible positions, hitherto untried commanders—HANCOCK and WARREN—have handled their corps; in the persistency with which GRANT in the new sphere of operations to which people, impatient of delay and wasted opportunies, has called him; in the nature of those military combinations by which our army has moved from a base to a position to come from which it can operate securely and strongly, we have all the elements upon which to form a calm and candid judgment as to the probable success of future operations. We can predict nothing. In war all is uncertain. He is the best General who makes the fewest mistakes; he is the most successful one whom Providence helps. We are, however, in a position to judge both of the skill and gallantry of our opponents and our brave defenders. GRANT has been matched against LEE, and the strengthened and renewed Army of the Potomac against all the forces which the South can collect for the defence of its capital. The result has been such as to justify the most sanguine expectations.

The strategetic principles involved in the district of country now the sphere of Eastern operations have been frequently and clearly laid down in this journal. They can be thus recapitulated: The decisive object of any aggressive campaign on our part is Richmond, not only on account of its political significance, but because it, together with Petersburgh and the James River, affords the only possible base of operations for movements in Southern Virginia and North Carolina. Washington is, from its political importance, the decisive object of the enemy's aggressive campaigns; but as a military position it depends upon Baltimore and the security of the railroad between them. Hence the Shenandoah Valley is the only aggressive route for the South, and the advance by such a route will always be directed upon Baltimore. The Antietam and Gettysburgh campaigns illustrate these points. The position best calculated to defeat all such aggressive movements is that of Culpepper, because the enemy cannot move into the valley without at once exposing his communications. Warrenton is nearly as good as Culpepper, but does not command as many of the enemy's communications with the valley. It is evident that if the defence of Washington has to be made by a battle outside its walls, that battle had better take place on the enemy's territory, and as far from Washington as possible. The occupation of Culpepper by MEADE gave us this advantage.

The road to Richmond via Culpepper and Gordonsville is not an available aggressive route; it is too long; its communications require too many men to defend; the country is too difficult to operate in; and the advantage possessed by the enemy of retreating from Gordonsville upon either Lynchburgh or Richmond, protecting the latter place, directly in the one case, and no less efficiently because indirectly in the latter, render an advance by this route the least desirable of all that can be undertaken.

The proper aggressive routes against Richmond in the order of their advantages are the route from Bermuda Landing, on the south side of the James; that from Harrison's Landing, on the north side of the James; and that from White House, on the Pamunky.

In resuming the offensive, the task assigned to GRANT was plain. He had first to secure Washington against any aggressive movement by LEE. He had, then, either to remove himself to a convenient position for operations against Richmond, if he could do so without exposing Washington, or he had to operate upon it independently, or combine this double course. In discussing the combinations which have actually taken place, it will be evident that important changes in the original programme have occurred, resulting from the failure on the part of the cooperating columns to perform the duties assigned to them.

GRANT in advancing to attack LEE had either to force the passage of the Rapidan in front, or turn it by strategy above or below. The first course was impracticable. To have turned LEE's left would have cut off LEE from Lynchburgh and reduced the operations between the two armies to one on single lines; would have thrown us upon a line of great length and very indefensible, and would have enabled LEE to fall back steadily, if forced, without the possibility of his being outmanœuvred or outflanked. If LEE had been absolutely certain that GRANT would capture Richmond, or so much of it as lies south of the James River, within ten days of his landing, this would probably have been the best course. LEE, cut off from Lynchburgh by GRANT, would have been severed from Richmond by BUTLER, and would have had to abandon a large portion of his artillery and trains to cross the James and establish a new base somewhere in North Carolina. Like all combinations, however, which are eccentric toward the enemy, this combination would only have been sound so long as every part of it worked as directed. It is not a combination capable of adjusting itself to the accidents of war, to the blunders and incapacities of those intrusted with the detail operations. There was left, therefore, but one course for GRANT, that of moving by his own left on to Richmond, crippling LEE in doing so in such manner as to prevent his advance upon Washington. The landing of BUTLER at Bermuda was a main element in the success of this scheme. Without it LEE might safely have retired upon Lynchburgh, threatening, if GRANT advanced upon Richmond, to attack his communications, and menacing an invasion. But BUTLER being on the James River, LEE is forced, not to this course, but to the one which has been pursued by GRANT. He chose the former alternative, and the battles of Thursday and Friday, the 5th and 6th of May, were the result—battles forced upon LEE by strategical causes, and, therefore defensive upon his part, but in the actual conduct of which our chief was too sound a tactician, and our soldiers and corps commanders too eager for the fray not to mix much that was aggressive. LEE baffled, retired upon Spottsylvania during Saturday, covering Richmond directly. The same causes led to the same manœuvres and the same conflicts. From right to left on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, our army fought LEE in his new position, feeling its way to new bases on the Rappahannock and Pamunky. These conflicts were chiefly aggressive on our part, and, like the previous fights in the Wilderness, were indecisive, except that of HANCOCK on Thursday morning. The result of the whole was our attaining a position which compelled LEE again to fall back, if he did not intend us to cut him off from Richmond, and enter into cooperation with BUTLER. The cavalry raid of SHERIDAN was probably intended much more for this latter purpose than for the mere advantages to be gained in cutting the railroads north of Richmond. It had become evident that BUTLER had lost golden opportunities not to be recovered—that he was on the defensive with no prospect of an immediate change. *His position had, however, accomplished the great point of forcing Lee to follow Grant's initiative*, and that being done, a large portion of the troops could be better employed with GRANT. Hence SMITH has been called to reinforce the Army of the Potomac, and it is far from impossible that GILLMORE may follow.

The movements upon the North Anna were similar in their character, to those around Spottsylvania. To guard against a repetition of the movement which, under JACKSON, in July, 1862, prevented MCDOWELL reinforcing MCCLELLAN, and under LEE in person in August, 1862, resulted in the disastrous campaign of POPE, it is necessary for GRANT, now that all the beneficial results to be expected from BUTLER's movements have been accomplished, to force LEE directly back upon Richmond, if that be possible. But if it be not possible, or if it should entail too great an expenditure of life to assault him in selected positions, then it remains for GRANT to hang or close upon the enemy's flank, that a general engagement being daily possible, he may become unable to make any large detachments from his own forces to aid in a diversion like that of JACKSON.

If these views of recent movements be correct, we find in that act of the campaign which has just closed some strong reasons for anticipating success, even though the enemy has developed resources in men and material, which show that the task before us is no easy one, and that, *if any decisive result is to be speedily attained, the whole military power of the* [illegible]

FROM THE SOUTH.

Comments of the Press on the Progress of the Campaign—Rebel Account of the Battle of Resaca—Correspondence Between Jeff. Davis and Gov. Vance—News from the Battle-fields.

Richmond papers of May 28 to 30th have been received. They furnish us the following extracts:

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

GRANT DECLINING BATTLE.

From the Richmond Examiner, May 28.

GRANT has definitely declined battle at Hanover Junction. Perhaps we should say that his army has saved him from the trouble of declining it. It is certain that both armies are once more moving. Two stories have lately prevailed of the direction in which GRANT is going. One account represented a large body of Yankees at Negro Foot, in the upper part of Hanover, but it has not been confirmed and is unlikely. The more probable statement is, that GRANT put fortifications along his line before the Junction to prevent an attack from Gen. LEE, and then returning to the northern bank of the North Anna, passed down the Pamunky to Hanovertown, a few miles above the Piping Tree, the point to which boats can come. Here he is said to have crossed the river with the greater part of his force.

Hanovertown is 16 miles from Richmond. If GRANT has really landed there, he may be said to have already reached the destination predicted for him since his cheek at Spottsylvania—the York and the Peninsula. His next base will be the Pamunkey and York, the White House and West Point.

Then his whole campaign up to this moment has been a defeat, its plan a failure, and he is compelled to adopt the derided scheme of MCCLELLAN instead of it. He might have come to West Point in a day's sailing from Washington. He might have set down his army there without having one hair on the head of any one man in it disturbed; and he might have brought LEE from the line of the Rapidan to the Chickahominy and our fortifications without wasting a cartridge on him. But neither GRANT nor his Government would touch MCCLELLAN's plan. It had been tried, and had failed; beside, it was MCCLELLAN's. So they imagined another, after their own hearts. They would attack LEE at Mine Run, far from his base, and destroy him there.

Failing in this, they would fight him till his army was wrecked, and then push the fragments before them down to Richmond. They would then approach the city not from the river, but from Hanover Junction, keeping the Central and Fredericksburgh Railroads always in their possession, supplying themselves thereby, to a position on the north of the city. Here they believed their army could not be flanked, as MCCLELLAN's was, by some Jackson coming out of the West through the gates of Gordonsville. But their plan failed on the 12th of May. On that day, the question whether they could beat LEE in the field and put him into a disastrous retreat, was forever settled. Twice within eight days GRANT endeavored to renew the assault, without the ability to bring up his columns.

Unable to remove the obstacle on the threshold of his proposed campaign, nothing was left but to abandon it, and make his way down the Valley of the Rappahannock to the head waters of the York—a monstrous circuit to reach a point where he might have landed on the 1st of May, had not his head been addled by his victories over PEMBERTON and BRAGG. Once, it is true, he turned aside to Hanover Junction, but found only a repetition of Spottsylvania Court-house in readiness there.

Now, we suppose, we may have another decisive battle of Cold Harbor, unless Gen. GRANT has become too much enamored with his left flank that he will continue it from the York to the James, and form a junction with BUTLER. If he does so, we may have a long Summer day. Perhaps he will dig parallels, and come to the city with the zig-zag. Perhaps he thinks himself back at Vicksburgh. It is true, we believe, that the officer who surrendered Vicksburgh has lately been placed, with a modest title, in high command at Richmond; it is also true that the Fourth of July is not afar off; but LEE and BEAUREGARD are also close at hand, and Richmond will never be circumvallated.

DESPERATION OF THE YANKEES.

From the Richmond Examiner, May 28.

The many unmistakable symptoms of desperation visible in this year's campaign—the employment of GRANT himself with absolute dictatorial powers, because he was known to be the man who would either effect his purpose or throw away his army—the insane drunkenness in which he drowned the cries of his troops before hurling them up against the muzzles of Confederate cannon—the reckless and unsparing ferocity with which quiet country places are devastated and covered with smoking ruins, and soaked with blood of unresisting people—all these things ought to encourage us; they consort well with what the enemy's public press has at any rate plainly avowed: that if the grand combined movement of 1864 should fail, then all was lost; that armies could no longer be raised to continue the invasion; that anarchy and financial ruin would break up their whole social and political system, and that the United States would be no more a nation.

And that campaign (may we not already say?) *has failed*; its force is expended and broken. Of its four grand armies, one in the Trans-Mississippi, is no longer an army; another, in Bermuda Hundred, has no care save to protect itself from destruction, in front by intrenchments, in rear by a fleet; the two other armies, and the two greatest, have advanced, indeed with tremendous waste of men and material, to the points at which LEE and JOHNSTON, at the head of fresh and eager troops, say to them: "No further! hitherto shalt thou go!" All the *élan*, all the drunken vigor of the opening of the campaign is gone; the pluck is taken out of it; and the invincible Yankee hosts, or what is left of them, can do no better than turn upon the already plundered population in their rear, rob a few houses, ravish a few women, crucify a few "secesh" planters, and go home.

If this be indeed the last grand effort of the enemy, as we hope and believe, then, how dear soever our independence shall have cost us, we shall still say it was cheap. We do not envy our enemies their plunder. Such wealth will never thrive with them; let them keep the spoons and the jewelry. Hereafter any Yankee—we were about to say Yankee woman, but let us say miscegenitrix—will be afraid to wear a diamond in reputable company, lest persons should compliment her, with a mischievous smile, upon her good taste in brilliants. As for the choice books and pictures which some connoisseur thieves had packed up and carried to the North to adorn their libraries and galleries, and to give them some idea what books and pictures good taste might admit into a decent house, it is doubtful whether these acquisitions will do them much good. When a nation has grown thoroughly corrupt, it can never learn anything—only unlearn what it once knew.

On the whole we can well afford to make the rogues welcome to all the profit they have got out of their invasion, especially as with the last day of their last campaign our cost ends and theirs begins. "Nations having no future state, always expiate their crimes in this world," and no nation ever yet ran up so long an account of crime, or so simply earned a hell upon earth; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

JEFF. DAVIS AND GOV. VANCE.

NORTH CAROLINA AND THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The Petersburgh *Express* of May 28 publishes the following correspondence:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH, Dec. 30, 1863.

His Excellency President Davis:

MY DEAR SIR—After a careful consideration of all the sources of discontent in North Carolina I have concluded that it will be impossible to remove it, except by making some effort at negotiation with the enemy. The recent action of the Federal House of Representatives, though meaning very little, *has greatly excited the public hope that the Northern mind is looking toward peace.* I am promised by all men who advocate this course that if fair terms are rejected it will tend greatly to strengthen and intensify the war feeling, and will rally all classes to a more cordial support of the Government. And, although our position is well known as demanding only to be let alone, yet it seems to me that, for the sake of humanity, without having any weak or improper motives attributed to us, we might, with propriety, *constantly tender negotiations.* In doing so we would keep conspicuously before the world a disclaimer of our responsibility for the great slaughter of our race, and convince the humblest of our citizens—who sometimes forget the actual situation—that the Government is tender of their lives and happiness, and would not prolong their sufferings unnecessarily one moment. Though statesmen might regard this as useless, the people will not, and I think our cause will be strengthened thereby. I have not suggested the method of these negotiations or their terms. The effort to obtain peace is the principal matter.

Allow me to beg your earnest consideration of this suggestion. Very respectfully yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, RICHMOND, Jan. 8, 1864.

DEAR SIR: I have received your letter of the 30th ult., containing suggestions of the measures to be adopted for the purpose of removing "the sources of discontent" in North Carolina. The contents of the letter are substantially the same as those of the letter addressed by you to Senator DORTCH, extracts from which were by him read to me. I remarked to Mr. DORTCH that you were probably not aware of the obstacles to the course you indicated, and, without expressing an opinion on the merits of the proposed policy, I desired him in answering your letter to write suggestions as to the method of opening negotiations, and as to the terms which you thought should be offered to the enemy. I felt persuaded you would appreciate the difficulties as soon as your attention was called to the necessity of considering the subject in detail. As you have made no suggestions touching the manner of overcoming the obstacles, I infer that you were not apprised by Mr. DORTCH of my remarks to him.

Apart from insuperable objections to the line of policy you propose, (and to which I will presently advert,) I cannot see how the more material obstacles are to be surmounted. We have made three distinct efforts to communicate with the authorities at Washington, and have been invariably unsuccessful. Commissioners were sent before hostilities were begun, and the Washington Government refused to receive them or hear what they had to say. A second time I sent a military officer with a communication addressed by myself to President LINCOLN. The latter was received by Gen. SCOTT, who did not permit the officer to see Mr. LINCOLN, but promised that an answer would be sent. No answer has ever been received. The third time, a few months ago, a gentleman was sent whose position, character and reputation were such as to insure his reception, if the enemy were not determined to receive no proposals whatever from the Government. Vice-President STEPHENS made a patriotic tender of his services in the hope of being able to promote the cause of humanity, and although little belief was entertained of his success, I cheerfully yielded to his suggestion, that the experiment should be tried. The enemy refused to let him pass through their lines or to hold any conference with them. He was stopped before he ever reached Fortress Monroe on his way to Washington. To attempt again (in the face of these repeated rejections of all conference with us) *to send commissioners or agents to propose peace, is to invite insult and contumely, and to subject ourselves to indignity without the slightest chance of being listened to.*

No true citizen, no man who has our cause at heart can desire this, and the good people of North Carolina would be the last to approve of such an attempt, if aware of all the facts. So far from removing sources of discontent, such a course would receive, as it would merit, the condemnation of those true patriots who have given their blood and their treasure to maintain the freedom, equality and independence which descended to them from the immortal heroes of King's Mountain and other battle-fields of the Revolution. If, then, these proposals cannot be made through envoys, because the enemy would not receive them, how is it possible to communicate our desire for peace otherwise than by the public announcements contained in almost every message I ever sent to Congress?

I cannot recall at this time one instance in which I have failed to announce that our only desire was peace, and the only terms which formed a *sine qua non*, were precisely those that you suggested, namely, "a demand only to be let alone." But suppose it were practicable to obtain a conference through Commissioners with the Government of President LINCOLN, is it at this moment that we are to consider it desirable or even at all admissable? Have we not just been apprised by that *despot* that we can only expect his generous pardon by emancipating all our slaves, swearing allegiance and obedience to him and his proclamation, and becoming in point of fact the slaves of our own negroes? Can there be in North Carolina one citizen so fallen beneath the dignity of his ancestors as to accept, or to enter into conference on the basis of these terms? *That there are a few traitors in the State who would be willing to betray their fellow-citizens to such a degraded condition, in hope of being rewarded for treachery by an escape from the common doom may be true.* But I do not believe that the vilest wretch would accept such terms for himself. I cannot conceive how the people of your State, than which none has sent nobler or more gallant soldiers to the field of battle (one of whom it is your honor to be), can have been deceived by anything to which you refer in the recent action of the Federal House of Representatives. We have seen no action of that House that does not indicate by a very decided majority, the purpose of the enemy to refuse all terms of the South, except absolute, unconditional subjugation or extermination. But if it were otherwise, how are we to treat with the House of Representatives?

It is with LINCOLN alone that we ever could confer, and his own partisans at the North avow unequivocally that his purpose in his message and proclamation was to shut out all hope that he could ever treat with us on any terms. If we will break up our Government, dissolve the Confederacy, disband our armies, emancipate our slaves, take an oath of allegiance binding ourselves to return hence to him in point of disloyalty to our own States, he proposes to pardon us and not to plunder us of anything more than the property already stolen from us and such slaves as still remain. In order to render his proposals so insulting as to secure their rejection he joins to them a promise to support with his army one-tenth of the people of any State who will attempt to set up a government over the other nine-tenths, thus seeking to sow discord and suspicion among the people of the several States, and to excite them to civil war in furtherance of his designs. How well he would be supported to get your people, if they possessed full knowledge of these facts, to consent that proposals should now be made by us to those who control the Government at Washington. Your own well-known devotion to the great cause of liberty and independence, to which we have all committed whatever we have of earthly possessions, would induce you to take the lead in repelling the bare thought of abject submission to the enemy. Yet peace on other terms is now impossible. *To obtain the sole terms to which you or I could listen, this struggle must continue until the enemy is beaten out of his own confidence in our subjugation. Then, and not till then, will it be possible to treat of peace.* Till then all offers of terms for peace will be received as proof that we are ready for submission, and will encourage him in the atrocious warfare which he is waging.

I fear much from the tenor of news I receive from North Carolina, that an attempt will be made by some bad men to inaugurate movements which must be considered as equivalent to aid and comfort to the enemy, and which all patriots should combine to put down at any cost. You may count on my aid in every effort to spare your State the scenes of civil warfare, which will devastate its homes, if the designs of these traitors be suffered to make headway. I know that you will place yourself in your legitimate position in the lead of those who will not suffer the name of the old North State to be blackened by such a stain. *Will you pardon me for suggesting that my only source of disquietude on the subject arises from the fear that you will delay too long the action which now appears inevitable, and that by an overearnest desire to reclaim by conciliation, men whom you believe to be sound at heart, but whose loyalty is more than suspected elsewhere, you will permit them to gather such strength as to require more violent measures than are now needed?* With your influence and position, the promoters of the unfounded discontent now prevalent in your State would be put down without the use of physical forces if you would abandon a policy of conciliation and set them at defiance. In this course, frankly and firmly pursued, you would rally around you all that is best and noblest in your State, and your triumph would be bloodless. *If the contrary policy be adopted, I much fear you will be driven to the use of force to repress treason.* In either event, however, be assured that you will have my cordial concurrence and assistance in maintaining with you the honor, dignity, and fair name of your State, and in your efforts to crush treason, whether incipient, as I believe it now to be, or more matured, as I believe, if not firmly met, it will in our future inevitably become.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS,

His Excellency, Z. B. VANCE, Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh, N. C.

THE BATTLE OF RESACA.

REBEL ACCOUNT OF THE FIGHT.

Correspondence of the Atlanta Intelligencer.

IN THE FIELD, NEAR CALHOUN, GA.,
Monday Afternoon, May 16, 1864.

The army having settled down for a while, I avail myself of the opportunity offered to give a full account of the battle of Costanaula, between the entire Yankee army and the divisions of HINDMAN, STEVENSON, and STEWART, of Hoon's corps, these troops composing the right wing of our army. The enemy's force was reported to be the corps of HOVEY, HOWARD, and PALMER, composing between 35,000 and 40,000 men, evidently the flower of the Yankee army, as they were composed almost entirely of Western troops, who, for fighting, rank only second to our own, as has been proven on many battle-fields during this war.

In the morning our forces left the works, and took position about one mile further, and immediately erected new breastworks on the ground they had captured the night previous, and which the enemy had not reoccupied. The object of this advance was to prevent any enfilading fire which had been obtained on our line the day previous, and to find room for our artillery to play upon the enemy with effect. As soon as our men, composed of STEVENSON's and STEWART's divisions, advanced, a brisk fire ensued between our skirmishers and those of the Yankees, but it ceased on the arrival of our columns. The new works were promptly erected, and before 10 o'clock everything was prepared for the anticipated aggressive movement of the enemy, whose manœuvers the night previous, after they were driven from the ridges, indicated that some plan was contemplated by them for regaining the lost ground.

About 12 o'clock the Yankee skirmishers opened a heavy fire on our pickets, compelling them to fall back behind the intrenchments, and at the same time heavy columns were seen forming on the right of HINDMAN's, STEVENSON's and STEWART's divisions. They were four lines of battle in depth, and appeared to number about 8,000 men, and from the number massed in front of STEVENSON's line, it became apparent that his division would have to stand the brunt of the engagement. One hour passed off slowly to the gallant men who were gazing over the works in anxious expectation for the advance of the enemy, when, at about 4 o'clock, the Yankee line of battle moved forward in fine order.

As soon as they crossed a ravine which divided the ridges held by our forces from those occupied by them, Capt. COBBET's battery of Georgia artillery was ordered to advance outside of our lines and about fifty yards from them, and take up a position which would have given us an enfilading fire on the approaching column. The battery, consisting of four 12-pounder Napoleons, moved out of the line and took up a position as ordered, but before they could fire a gun or their infantry support could come up, the charge was made along the whole line. The Yankees had crossed the ravine and with a loud cheer rushed on our works.

HINDMAN quickly repulsed them, but the fighting on Brown's line of STEVENSON's and STEWART's Divisions was long and desperate. Capt. COBBET's battery being subjected to a fearful fire, the men left their guns, but not before they had lost 30 of their number in killed and wounded, and entered our line. No sooner did the Yankees perceive this than a fresh column of their troops were thrown rapidly forward, and, uniting with that which had gone before, rushed on the abandoned guns with the hope of capturing them and carrying our line.

Their anticipations were, however, foiled by the gallantry of the Third and Twentieth Tennessee, Cols. WALKER and SAFFEL commanding. These noble men, perceiving the intention of the enemy, withheld their fire until the Yankee column had approached to almost an arm's length of the guns, when a volley, steady and accurate, was poured into the ranks of the foremost column. It broke and ran, having been fearfully cut up. The second column advanced over the bodies of their comrades, and endeavored to achieve what they failed to do. A second volley from the gallant Tennesseeans filled the ground with dead and wounded, and, imitating the example of those before them, they fled, but not before two fresh regiments had been thrown forward under cover of their fire, and made to file behind the four guns of COBBET's battery, at the same time planting their colors on the parapet of the redoubt.

In the meantime, the Yankees had advanced on STEWART's line, and made a desperate attempt to take it by storm. CLAYTON's and BAKER's brigades of Alabamians, aided by STOVALL's and GIBSON's, received them with great gallantry, and poured a terrible fire into the Yankee advance. They, however, continued to move forward, and approached very near the line, when CLAYTON's brigade gave them another well-directed fire, and they fell down the slope of the hill until out of range of our guns. This charge was desperately made, and the masses of the enemy's dead that lay piled up before STEWART's line attested the courage and determination of our foe.

A pause of nearly three-quarters of an hour elapsed, broken only by the incessant fire of the Yankee sharpshooters, who, mounted on trees and other prominent positions, made it dangerous for any one to walk erect along the line. At the expiration of the time named a fresh column of Yankees advanced upon our lines, and in a few seconds HINDMAN's, STEVENSON's and STEWART's men were pouring in a well-directed fire. A second time they broke and ran, but still leaving the two regiments mentioned before, which, being ensconced behind the redoubt, were safe from the volleys poured on their comrades, although they suffered terribly from our sharpshooters.

Two charges had been repulsed, with heavy loss to the enemy, and the ammunition of the Twenty-sixth Tennessee had been half expended, when fresh columns of Yankees were seen forming in line of battle opposite BROWN's works. The charges on HINDMAN and STEWART, who were on the right and left of STEVENSON, had become feebler, while the movements of the Yankees notified the last named officer that his division would have to bear the brunt of the engagement. REYNOLD's brigade had been previously ordered up, and were lying on the ground about fifteen yards in the rear of BROWN's line—the officers with difficulty restraining the men from entering the breastworks before they were called for.

The Yankee column made the third charge, and was again repulsed with heavy loss. As rapidly as I can relate it, another fresh column was thrown forward and made the fourth charge. Several volleys were thrown into their ranks by the brave Tennesseeans, and a fourth time they broke, and retreated in disorder to the ridge on which their forces were massed.

It was now past 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and in these two hours of fighting, BROWN's brigade had expended forty rounds of ammunition each man. REYNOLDS' brigade was now ordered to relieve them, and, giving a yell, the Fifty-fourth Virginia entered the evacuated works of the Twenty-eighth North Carolina and Sixty-third Virginia.

Neither HINDMAN nor STEWART, had need of their reserves in the charges of the enemy, though made with vigor and gallantly repulsed by these men, were neither as numerous nor determined, and were intended to cover their design on STEVENSON, and to prevent the reserves of these divisions from being sent to his support. The three regiments named above took their positions on the line, and Gen. BROWN's men retired about 200 yards to the rear, for the purpose of receiving a fresh supply of ammunition. Gen. PETTUS' brigade of Alabamians had been ordered up a few minutes before. Gen. STEVENSON perceiving the enemy were determined in their purpose to carry his line,

The gallant brigade was formed in two lines of battle, behind the Virginians and North Carolinians, about twenty yards apart, and remained there, lying close to the ground, for the moment their services were wanted.

At 3¼ o'clock a fifth charge was made, the enemy throwing forward fresh troops every time. The charge was very heavy and was made with spirit. As the long and close column of Yankees moved swiftly through the winding ravine, every face assumed a rigid expression of unyielding determination, while the hearts of those looking on the movements of the enemy almost ceased their vibration with anxiety.

It was certain, from the large numbers of the enemy, that this would be the heaviest charge yet made, and extreme anxiety for success was manifested. At last, with a prolonged cheer, they rushed upon our works. A volley—a terrible, death-dealing volley—was poured into their ranks, and a loud and enthusiastic yell of defiance rang out from the lips of the Virginians and North Carolinians. This was more than the men of BROWN's and PETTUS' brigades could withstand, and, though threatened with death by their officers, numbers of the gallant Tennesseans and Alabamians had entered the pits to assist in repelling the charge, but their services were not needed.

Almost as quick as lightning, another volley had been already poured into the enemy's lines of battle, and they turned and retreated in disorder to the cover of their ridge, followed by the derisive shouts of their victors.

The fifth charge had now been repulsed, but still the enemy evinced neither the desire nor the intention to abandon their efforts to carry our works. They had almost ceased their attack on HINDMAN, but continued to assault STEVENSON's and STEWART's lines with the greatest fury and determination possible. STEWART had already repulsed him three times, and STEVENSON five.

A fourth time the enemy essayed to carry STEWART's line of battle and were repulsed with fearful loss. The carnage here was dreadful, for the gallant men of CLAYTON's brigade withheld their fire until the enemy had approached close to them, when they poured in a terrible volley, breaking them, and forcing their massed columns to retire to their lines badly scattered.

I said that the enemy evinced neither the desire nor intention to abandon his efforts, and so it was, for within half an hour after his fifth attack and repulse three lines of battle, closely massed, were seen forming in front of that portion of the line held by the Fifty-eighth North Carolina.

As I looked over the works, a feeling of mingled fear and anxiety pervaded me, that if they succeeded in forcing the line, our army would be cut to pieces and overwhelmed with disaster and disgrace. There was not much time for reflection, however, for very soon a voice on the right of the regiment exclaimed, "They are coming!" and the first column was seen to advance. "Withhold your fire until they come close to you, and then aim low," ordered the officers. On came the enemy, cheering loudly, and confident that their superior numbers would insure them success.

They approached to within fifty yards of the line firing rapidly on our men—a sheet of fire, one deafening roar, which sounded like the eruption of a volcano was the answer, and the dead and wounded lie piled up before the works. This was more than human endurance could command, and bewildered by the fierceness of our fire they scattered throughout the woods, and reached their line, our sharpshooters killing and wounding them by dozens in their route down the ridge.

This was the severest charge of the day. The Yankees advanced well and with spirit, but were forced to succumb to the fierce fire of our troops. To describe the scene would be almost an impossibility, for it beggars description.

The hill balls of the Yankees poured over our line in an unceasing stream, and in such numbers that the air seemed black with them. The sharp and musical whiz they emit was no longer heard; it was an angry discordant imitation of a peal of thunder rolling along the clouds, while the booming of the artillery and the bursting of the shells as they came flying over our lines, formed a fire, unequaled, perhaps, since nations first made war upon each other. But one thing saved us from a fearful loss of life, and it was that the Yankees fired entirely too high.

The sixth column was repulsed in five minutes when the remaining two columns of Yankees marched forward, with the hope of reaching our line before our men could fire more than one volley. But their charge was not made with the same firmness which characterized that of the preceding one, and two or three well-timed volleys from the Fifty-eighth North Carolina, assisted by a cross-fire from the Fifty-fourth Virginia on the one wing and the Sixty-third on the other, routed the seventh attacking column of the enemy. They also retired to their ridge, and for a few moments only their sharpshooters could be seen, their main body being, no doubt, engaged in reforming their broken columns.

According to the order, Gen. STEWART advanced to the enmy, but unfortunately obliqued too much to the right, and destroyed all connection with Gen. REYNOLDS. He attacked the enemy, and drove them from his front until he reached his line of battle, when fresh troops reenforcing the Yankees, they rallied, and making a stand, opened fire on our men. No sooner had they fired the first volley than one of the brigades of STEWART's division broke, compelling the others to fall back, which they did in good order, although pressed by the enemy, and regained their works without losing very heavily. In this charge, Gen. CLAYTON's brigade distinguished itself above the balance of the division by its fine conduct.

Although these men were subjected to a fearful fire from four lines of battle of Yankees, they received it with praiseworthy firmness, and succeeded in driving the enemy from their front, and regained their works in safety. BAKER's brigade, aided by GIBSON, also behaved splendidly, and distinguished themselves by their brave conduct—in fact covered themselves with glory.

It was past 6 o'clock in the evening, but though night was fast approaching, the enemy exhibited no disposition to cease from his fruitless efforts to carry the right of Gen. STEVENSON's line, and was determined to endeavor to turn his left wing and force him on his right.

Accordingly, Gen. STEWART was ordered to leave his works and drive the enemy from his front, sweeping toward his center, while REYNOLD's brigade of STEVENSON's division was ordered to advance at the same time, for the purpose of forming a pivot of Gen. STEWART, and changing the line of battle obliquely to the left, thus flanking the enemy and giving Gen. HARDEE an opportunity to advance and cut the enemy off from Snake Creek Gap, while HOOD cut him off from the Dalton road.

While STEWART was making his movement, a peremptory order reached Gen. REYNOLDS for him to advance his command as a pivot.

The General opposed the movement unless Gen. STEWART's left wing formed a junction with his right, but upon the order being repeated in a more peremptory manner, the Fifty-fourth Virginia Regiment was ordered to advance from their line of works and carry the ridge before them, while the other regiments were directed to be ready to move at a moment's notice for the purpose of making the pivot complete and thus performing the work allotted to them. The Fifty-fourth leaped over the works, and with their gallant Col. ROBERT TRIMBLE and Lieut.-Col. JOHN J. WARD in front, moved forward.

At this moment the enemy was about to make another charge, and were pouring a heavy fire over our works, compelling the regiment to advance under a galling fire. It, however, disregarded the storm of shot and shell poured upon it, and drove the charging column of Yankees through the woods until it reached the open field, when, to the astonishment of the Colonel, it was discovered that STEWART's division was not in sight, and consequently there was no connection with the regiment.

This was most unfortunate, for the enemy perceiving the regiment "solitary and alone" in the open field, commenced pouring a galling fire into their ranks, but nothing daunted by this, COLS. TRIMBLE and WARD, waving their swords, gave the order to charge. On the men marched, until they were not five paces from the enemy's line, when four distinct lines or battle, extending as far as the eye could reach, were seen by this command, and numbered 8,000 men.

The adjutant of the regiment, with pistol in hand, rushed forward and seized the Yankee colors, and fired into their ranks, when a bullet pierced his brain and he fell dead across the enemy's works. His name was Hammet, and a braver and nobler man never sacrificed his life on the altar of his country.

Col. TRIMBLE, perceiving that his men were falling fast from an enfilading fire, as well as a fire in front, and observing them giving way in disorder, rallied them under a heavy fire, and in pretty good order, brought them back to our lines, when it was discovered that in less than five minutes he had lost over a hundred men out of four hundred and fifty he had led to the charge.

Our total loss in this engagement could not have exceeded 2,000, while that of the Yankees is estimated at not less than 6,000. One thing is certain, that they were slaughtered by hundreds at every charge, and must have suffered severely.

At 10 o'clock last night our entire army left the works, and proceeded to cross the Coostonelia River. Before the rear had proceeded a mile from the works a sharp fire was opened between our pickets and those of the enemy, ours being driven in.

The enemy must have then advanced their column for a night attack, as they opened a terrific fire of musketry on the vacated lines, cheering vociferously at the same time. Our men were then rapidly marched forward through STEWART's division, which had formed in line of battle across the railroad, for the purpose of covering the retreat, *which was not occasioned from any fear that the Yankees would be able to carry our line of works, as the army felt confident of holding its position an indefinite period of time, but because our stand at Coostonelia River was only to protect the withdrawal of our large wagon trains.*

The Yankees followed our army closely, and pressed us all the day, but STEWART's division has kept him at bay so far. This evening there was sharp firing on our right, but I have not learned what it was caused from.

Our present position is around Calhoun, but the chances are that we will continue our retreat to Adairsville to-morrow. We may fight here, but I do not think it likely. In the mean while, the Yankees are reported to be massing heavy columns on our left with the view of flanking us. Let them continue; it cannot last forever.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

FROM THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

ASHLAND, Friday, May 27.

Advices from the front are that the enemy have recrossed the North Anna, and are again on the move in the direction, it is supposed, of our right. The enemy are said to have made an effort this morning to burn the bridge over the North Anna, on the telegraph road, but were foiled. There was some skirmishing this this morning, and also some between 10 and 12 o'clock last night.

Our army is moving rapidly on a line almost parallel with the route which GRANT is following. At 12 o'clock to-day a heavy force of the enemy appeared at Hanover Court-house, and were pressing our cavalry back at that point. Two prisoners have just been brought in belonging to the Sixth Corps. They say their command received orders yesterday to march to the White House.

FROM NORTH GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Friday, May 27.

Our advance came up with the enemy at New-Hope, four miles east of Dallas, at noon Wednesday. Hood's corps was first in the fight, parts of two divisions, STEVENSON's and HINDMAN's, only were engaged. We had but one line of battle, which the enemy charged twice, and were handsomely repulsed.

A private note from Gen. JOHNSON's headquarters, at sunrise yesterday, says that the affair of Wednesday afternoon was handsome. We are having a renewal this morning. During the day firing continued, but was evidently receding from us, and a few guns have been heard this morning, apparently at a still greater distance.

Gen. CUMMINGS is severely wounded in the breast and arm. Gen. REYNOLDS wounded slightly.

The army was moving up to the field yesterday morning in fine condition.

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1864.

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To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. If received after 8½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

The latest news from Gen. GRANT is up to three o'clock on Friday. In a dispatch dated at that time he gives the particulars of an assault made upon the enemy's lines on Friday morning, at 4:30 o'clock. The enemy were driven within their intrenchments at all points, and though the advantage gained was not decisive, yet our troops held all the ground they had gained. About three hundred prisoners were taken, mostly from BRECKINRIDGE'S corps. Gen. GRANT says his loss was not severe, and he does not suppose the enemy to have lost heavily. Another official report, not from Gen. GRANT, estimates our loss in the battle at three thousand. Col. HASKELL, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, Col. PORTER, Eighth New-York Heavy Artillery, and Col. MORRIS, Sixty-sixth New-York, were killed. Gen. R. O. TYLER was severely, and Col. BYRNES, of the Twenty-eighth Massachusetts, mortally wounded. Col. MCMAHON, of the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth New-York, and the heroic Col. BROOKE, of the Fifty-third Pennsylvania, were also wounded.

On Thursday evening and Friday morning the rebels made several attacks on Gen. BUTLER'S lines, but were driven off without much trouble.

There is nothing further from Gen. SHERMAN.

Maj.-Gen. FREMONT has resigned his commission in the army, and it has been accepted.

Lieut.-Col. BAILEY has been promoted to the colonelcy of the Fourth Wisconsin Regiment, the position being vacant by the death of Col. BOARDMAN. The officers of the Mississippi squadron of iron-clads are getting up a handsome subscription, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Col. BAILEY, in acknowledgement of the valuable services he rendered the fleet at Alexandria, La. At this end of the country, the thanks of Congress and a Brigadier-General's commission awaits Col. BAILEY. His services, very valuable as they were, are appreciated by the country and the Government.

The United States mail steamship *Morning Star*, Capt. HEFLBURN, from New-Orleans and Havana, arrived yesterday afternoon. She brings 1,000 bales of cotton as freight, and 220 passengers, among whom are Messrs. J. M. G. PARKER, Postmaster of New-Orleans, and C. A. HERD, as delegates to the Baltimore Convention. There was no military news of any importance. A great fire had occurred at the Levee, in New-Orleans, which consumed eight steamers and two schooners. The loss exceeded $250,000, on which there was little or no insurance.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Boston *Advertiser* of Friday says: "That unexpected orders, caused probably by the increasing complication of affairs among the European Powers, were received on Thursday by Admiral LISSOFSKY, directing him to return to Cronstadt immediately with his fleet. He will probably sail from Boston direct on Thursday or Friday of this week. Capt. KRAEMER sailed for New-York on Friday with the *Peresveit*."

The steamship *Morning Star* brings news from Havana to May 31. The Spanish steamer *Barcelona*, which arrived on the 26th, brought dates from the City of Mexico to the 16th, and from Vera Cruz to the 21st. MAXIMILIAN had not arrived, though great preparations have been made for his reception. A conspiracy had been discovered in Guadalajara, and thirteen persons have been arrested. It is supposed that they are connected with a general conspiracy, lodges of which are feared by the French to exist in all the towns they hold "that declared for the intervention." Incendiary placards continually appear on the walls of Mexico, and persons are being arrested for crying "*Death to Maximilian and the French.*" Several pieces of artillery had been received by the Government of Neuva Leon, from San Francisco, through Mazatlan, and the artillery, ammunition, &c., had arrived at Monterey. They were obtained through Brownsville, by the Juarists. Gen. DORRAU occupied the town of Nachistlan, claiming to have killed 200, and taken 100 prisoners. Several steamers had arrived from St. Domingo, but they bring no news save of a battle in which the Spaniards were reported victorious, but only had, according to the official dispatch, one killed and seven wounded. Two schooners have been captured as prizes, having on board contraband of war for the rebels. The rebel steamer *Denbigh* arrived at Havana on May 30, two and a half days from Mobile, with glorious news for the Fedrals from Georgia and Virginia.

A mass meeting was held last evening in Union-square, to do honor to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT and his brave soldiers. The greatest enthusiasm and unanimity prevailed. Speeches were made by JAMES T. BRADY, Esq., Ex-Mayor OPDYKE, Hon. CHAS. P. DALY, Gen. MEAGHER, and others. A letter from President LINCOLN was read, expressing his hearty approval of the objects of the meeting. At its conclusion, loud cheers were given for the President.

The rebel Gen. ED. JOHNSON was captured by FRANK TOTMAN, of the Maine Seventeenth. He took the rebel by the color and told him he was his prisoner, when JOHNSON replied that he should not surrender to any one but the commander of the force. His captor replied, "Don't know anything about that; you can't get away from me!" and he took him to Gen. HANCOCK.

On Saturday, Flour was in fair request and generally firm. Wheat was active at an advance of 1c. ₱ bushel. Corn was dull and heavy. Oats were in brisk demand and much higher. Provisions were freely purchased, but closed heavily. Whisky, Hay, Leather, Tallow, Tobacco and Petroleum were inquired for at buoyant rates. Wool was more sought after, and held more firmly. The freight engagements were quite limited at drooping rates, with 663 vessels of all classes in port.

On and after this day, business hours at the Produce Exchange will terminate at precisely 12:30 o'clock—a gain of about one hour for merchants having bank accounts to adjust and letters to write for the afternoon mails, as also for newspaper representatives having reports to prepare for the evening editions of the leading daily journals. The old system of protracting the session on 'Change closely on toward 2 o'clock P. M. was a source of great inconvenience to all interested parties. The reform is highly commendable.

The May Campaigns.

The bygone month of May will assuredly be one of the most memorable in the annals of the war. With its opening days, our two great armies in Virginia and in Georgia simultaneously advanced—the advance quickly followed, in the one field, with the deliverance of battle by LEE, his repulse and retreat; and in the other field, the advance speedily progressing, with the driving of JOHNSTON from one and another, and still others, of the heights and ridges of the mountains of upper Georgia. As the days wore on, the battle of the Wilderness was succeeded by the battles at Spottsylvania; the flanking movement on the lines of Mine Run was followed by the flanking movement on the line of the Po; this again followed by forcing the passage of the North Anna, the recrossing of that stream and the flanking of LEE'S lines on the South Anna; this followed by the passage of the Pamunky, the march direct toward the objective of Richmond, and the contest at the Chickahominy. In all of which movements Lieut.-Gen. GRANT took the *initiative*, while LEE was compelled, in each successive instance, to wait upon the will, and adapt himself as best he might, to the movements of his adversary. When the month opened our army was something less than a hundred miles from Richmond; at its close we were within ten miles of it; and although, in some circumstances, this might form no criterion whatever by which to judge of our gains, we think that viewing the incidents and reviewing the history of the advance, we can be guided by it somewhat in measuring how we stand as compared with how we stood.

The advance in Georgia covers a space of even greater extent than that in Virginia. Its incidents, however, are as different as are the highlands of Georgia from the lowlands of Eastern Virginia. On topographical grounds, considering the style and number of natural strongholds, we should have looked for far the stiffest and most prolonged contest in the Western field. But JOHNSTON'S defence has been very different from that of LEE. He fell back from Ringgold almost without a show of resistance; was flanked from Rocky-faced Ridge, and was easily driven or flanked from Resaca, Rome and Dallas. The campaign on SHERMAN'S part is a most remarkable one, and has been conducted with great ability. JOHNSTON is now in the very vicinity of Atlanta, which is our objective; and although we think he must make as hard a fight there as is possible for him, there seems the best grounds to hope for SHERMAN'S success. After the capture of Atlanta we shall doubtless have a pause in the Western campaign.

The month of May, which, as we have said, opened with GRANT moving over the Rapidan and SHERMAN moving from the line of the Tennessee, closed with GRANT in front of Richmond and SHERMAN almost in front of Atlanta. In May of last year we had two active campaigns—that of HOOKER on the Rappahannock, and that of GRANT at Vicksburgh. In May of 1862, we had MCCLELLAN'S campaign on the Peninsula, which was signalized during the month with the battles of Williamsburgh, West Point, Hanover Court-house and Fair Oaks. But for great campaigns and eminent successes, the May that has just closed has been, perhaps, the most memorable month of the war.

Designs of the Rebels.

The *World* has, for several months, kept its readers excited and hopeful, by a succession of announcements from a Southern correspondent, that large "columns" of Confederate troops were preparing for an invasion of the North on a grand scale. One "column" was to cross the Potomac into Pennsylvania, and another was to cross the Ohio into Ohio, and both were to lay waste and destroy in every direction. A correspondent of the *Tribune* has lately taken up the same tune, and menaces us with a sudden dash up the Shenandoah on the part of LEE, who is to invade the North and assail Washington with his whole force, leaving GRANT to twirl his thumbs in front of Richmond, and take it if he can or will. And there is very little doubt that a secret fear that something of this kind might happen, has haunted a good many people down to the commencement of the campaign, and still flits now and then across their excited fancy.

Nothing, we need hardly say, has either occurred or is likely to occur to justify any of these dismal anticipations. There is nothing in the history of the war affording the smallest foundation for them. Most letters written by "Southern" correspondents of newspapers, and professing to give Secessionist views of the situation, are composed solely with the view of alarming and mystifying timid people and stockjobbers at the North. There is in them all a wildness on the subject of numbers, distances and material difficulties of all kinds, which proves that they were not intended to convince either professional or intelligent non-professional readers. It only needs a very small amount of reflection on the weak and strong points of the Confederacy, to remove the absurdity of supposing that an invasion of the North in force *now* forms any part of their plan. If LEE should deliberately allow GRANT to get between him and Richmond, and should then, rushing northward, fling himself into the Free States, it would be conclusive proof that he had given the game up, and was determined to perish gloriously; and for this reason it ought to be the devout wish of every loyal heart that he should do it. There could no better news come to all of us at this moment, than that he had left Richmond to its fate and was making his way into the North. If he got there, he might destroy a vast amount of property, and devastate some very fertile and prosperous districts; but he could not in two months of invasion do us half the damage which he is likely to do by retiring south of Richmond, and compelling us to keep a large army on foot to pursue him for another year.

LEE will only invade the North, with the hope of gaining something by it, in case our armies shall be utterly destroyed. We might then have nothing but raw militia to oppose him, and though even with this we might eventually bar his progress, or, at all events, render it slow and painful, we might not prevent him from occupying the capital and one or two of our large cities, and levying heavy contributions on them all. His first entrance into Maryland was due to his belief that MCCLELLAN'S defeat on the Peninsula, and POPE'S in front of Washington had so disorganized and demoralized our army as to render it incapable of further effectual resistance. He found out his mistake at Antietam. His second was due to the belief that Fredericksburgh and Chancellorsville had produced a similar effect. He found out his mistake at Gettysburgh. He has always, we may feel assured, known perfectly well that an invasion of the North was a hopeless task until the Army of the Potomac was paralyzed. And it would be an odd way to paralyze it, to leave it in his rear, 150,000 strong, and rush into the enemy's territory with simply such supplies as he could carry with him. It is not the military chief of the insurrection, but the Richmond scribblers, whose brains are filled with schemes of this sort.

LEE'S movements prior to the battle of Gettysburgh have probably taught him a lesson that will last him as long as the war lasts. He entered Pennsylvania after months of preparation and deliberation. He had things all his own way after crossing the line for nearly a fortnight. He harried, and wasted, and collected supplies, and exacted contributions at his leisure. Nevertheless, after fighting one battle, in which he was not routed by any means, he found himself short of ammunition and compelled to commence a retreat, which a little more enterprize might have rendered fatal. This was, of course, simply an illustration of what LEE and every other soldier knew already, that an invading army, especially if it be a large one, must have a secure base of supplies, from which it can draw ammunition and food in such quantities, and at such times as it wants them. The writers who supply our cotemporaries with "Southern news," seem, however, to labor under the delusion that steel, and round-shot, and grape, and cannister, and cartridges of every calibre, can be picked up by the Confederate troops on the road-side as they march through the North, or, at least, that LEE thinks so.

Signs of Returning Confidence—England and America.

Much meaning may be gathered from an item in the latest British Parliamentary reports.

In the House of Commons, Major KNOX asked the Under Secretary of State for War whether it was true that the Guards had been ordered home from Canada, and if so, whether other troops were to be sent to the province to replace them. The Under Secretary replied that two battalions of the Grenadier Guards and one battalion of the Military Train were ordered home; and, furthermore, that they were not to be replaced.

Before the rebellion here broke out, the garrisons of Quebec, Montreal, Kingston and Toronto were reduced to their minimum of strength. The other forts along the frontier were practically dismantled, and the number of regulars in the entire Province probably was little in excess of 2,000 men, all told. This system of reduction began in Lord GREY'S time, who held the strongest kind of notions as to the propriety of making the colonists provide for their own defence. And it was just immediately before the crotchety Earl retired from office with the Whigs, in 1852, that a bargain was concluded to give up a large imperial ordnance property to the provincials, on condition that they should make provision to keep up a militia force for internal defence.

The Imperial Government kept its part of the bargain, and gave over all the ordnance property not actually needed for garrison uses at the principal forts. The colonists, on the other hand, were slow to fulfill their side of the covenant, and full five years had passed before there was anything to show in the way of a regularly organized volunteer militia. By the year 1857, there was a good number of local companies mustered for local militia duty. Some of them were well drilled, moderately well uniformed, and superabundantly armed. And on this force, or the portion of it that might have stuck to the service, the imperial authorities would have left the province mainly to depend, but for the difficulties with the United States; first in acknowledging the rebel seceders from the Union as belligerents; next in the affair of the *Trent*; again in the matter of alleged "outrages" on blockade runners and British citizens, resident within the territory of the United States; and finally, in the long-standing and dangerous grievance of the outfit of privateers for the rebels in British ports.

The mutual remonstrances, criminations and recriminations which made up the sum of all these international difficulties, brought the Guards, the Royal Artillery, the Rifles and other infantry regiments to the Province, in a force which, with the contingent additions made from time to time, must have swelled to the proportions of twelve thousand men. With these came a formidable supply of heavy ordnance and general garrison stores for all the principal forts. But the local militia all this time remained in the somnolent state which appears to be its normal condition, with the exception of some three weeks' spasmodic drilling, to which it submitted in the Winter of 1862, when other amusements gave out. So that, in case of the worst coming to the worst, the chief military defence of the Province would have rested, for a time at least, with the 12,000 regulars, who are now to be in part permanently relieved for home duty.

The decision of the Imperial Government, which has led to the issuance of this order from the Horse Guards, shows, among other things, that the *Trent* affair is forgotten, that the blockade-running and other personal grievances of British subjects in this country have either been settled or set aside; and that the British Government has definitely entered upon a new policy in regard to the matter of permitting the outfit of rebel privateers in British ports—a policy satisfactory to the Government of the United States. This is the *rationale* of the news that the Queen's Guards and the military train are to be withdrawn from Canada, with no provision for their replacement by other regiments of the regular force.

The Dano-German Conference.

The month of truce has almost expired, and yet the Conference has effected nothing. "The divergence of opinion," says the London *News*, "not only between the belligerents, but between Austria, Prussia and the neutral Powers, is *so wide* that they have not been able even to agree on any common basis of discussion." The Danish plenipotentiaries have taken their stand on the Treaty of London, and insist that the provisions of that instrument are binding on all the parties who assented to it. The German diplomats, on the contrary, abjure that treaty altogether, and maintain that the war has freed them from its trammels; while the representatives of the neutral States, though inclining to the Danish view of the question, feel themselves paralyzed from inability to reconcile the jarring pretensions of the litigants. The pacificators are in fact in a dead lock, and cannot advance a single step as long as this London Treaty is suffered to remain as a stumbling block in their way. Whatever might be its obligations under other circumstances, it is now impracticable. The solution of the problem touching the future relations of the Duchies to Denmark, will prove amply sufficient to test the tact of the opposing plenipos, without superadding the unprofitable task of attempting to attain unanimity as to the meaning of this instrument, to which Europe owes both the war and the Conference. Let the Treaty of London then be at once shelved by the general consent of all parties, and let the diplomats apply themselves to determine what is to be the future status of the Danish Duchies.

Nor will the representatives of the Powers succeed in solving even this question, if they do not approach it in a spirit of compromise. To think of reconciling the integrity of the Danish monarchy with the autonomy of the recusant provinces is absurd. The German plenipotentiaries will continue to insist on the independence of Schleswig-Holstein as a *sine qua non*, and the most that the neutral Powers can do for Denmark will be to secure their crown to King CHRISTIAN. If the Danes persist in refusing their assent to an arrangement of this kind, and fancy they can continue to hold the Duchies in a state of dependence on Denmark, then all prospect of compromise will vanish, and the solution of the problem must be transferred from the diplomats to the armies. This has been NAPOLEON'S favorite mode of solution from the first, and recently the semi-official organs of His French Majesty have been clamoring for its adoption as an easy and equitable way of surmounting the difficulty.

Should the question, however, be taken out of the hands of the plenipotentiaries, and the ballot-box and popular suffrage be brought into requisition, both the Danes and their King may bid farewell to the Duchies; for the Schleswig-Holsteiners will assuredly vote themselves away from Denmark, and their crown from CHRISTIAN. Any settlement, therefore, that the Danes can make with the German Powers in conference, will be more favorable to Danish interests than what they could obtain by popular appeal, while the great German Powers have a special interest in avoiding such an appeal if possible. That mode of decision, indeed, so far as the Duchies are concerned, would be most advantageous to Germany; but its adoption would be the establishment of a precedent which might prove damaging in its operation to Prussia and Austria—since, were the Schleswig-Holsteiners allowed to proclaim the abrogation of their own grievances and to decide their own destinies, what ground would exist for denying the same privilege to the Poles, Hungarians and Venetians? The adoption of the Napoleonic mode of setting the matter at rest would, therefore, be the establishment of a precedent which would inaugurate revolution in Europe, and produce the dismemberment of some of its most powerful monarchies.

Neither Austria nor Prussia then, any more than Denmark, has an interest in obstructing the proceedings of the Conference, and rendering an appeal to the ballot-box necessary. But the period for which the belligerents agreed to suspend hostilities, is almost run out, and presently we must have either a renewal of the war or the appeal in question. The parties to the quarrel have hence no time for consideration, and if they do not assent to a compromise, the Napoleonic scheme, which will prove fatal to the litigants, must be brought into requisition, or a conflict must be revived that may involve the whole European continent in a general conflagration.

The Anglo-Maorian War.

Our latest intelligence from New-Zealand is of considerable importance. The capture, by Gen. CAMERON, of the native strongholds on the Waipa has broken the backbone of Maorian power, if it has not quite crushed the revolt. These strongholds were of the most elaborate construction, and so formidable that they could not have been carried by assault without great sacrifice of life. Instead of attempting to storm them, therefore, the British commander determined to turn them, and on the evening of the 20th of February he set forth, at the head of about a thousand troops, to gain the rear of the Maori position. Unperceived and unopposed, the detachment passed round the intrenchments, and when the natives saw the enemy in their rear they were filled with consternation, and decided to evacuate their strongholds, while evacuation was possible. This resolve was promptly executed, and on the following morning not a single human being was found in either. The Maories retired to a point only a few miles distant, where they defended themselves obstinately for a brief space, but ultimately abandoned that position also, and sought refuge in the hill country. Since then 150 of them, regarding their cause as hopeless, have laid down their arms, and returned to their allegiance. It is despair in fact, not any anticipation of triumph, that urges the Maories to prolong the conflict. Vanquished though they have been, and expect to be, they nevertheless prefer death on the battle-field to that unconditional submission, without which they cannot obtain peace. They have heard the cry of the colonists for *confiscation*, they have heard that 20,000 adventurers are to be settled on the lands of which they are to be stripped, and they dread to place themselves in the power of a merciless and unscrupulous enemy, lest their only source of subsistence should be wrung from them.

The Governor, it is true, does not mean to carry our in full the views of the colonists, nor to leave the natives altogether destitute of land; but he certainly does mean to deprive them of so much of their territory as will enable him to keep faith with the volunteers, and to abrogate altogether the tribal right, by virtue of which they now own the soil. These terms are very far from being so severe as those the speculators would impose, if they could, but the vagueness of their nature and the necessity for unconditional surrender in the first instance, renders them little less odious than the sweeping confiscation which the colonists clamor for.

It is both highly impolitic and highly inhumane to drive the natives to despair, for though they are evidently not able to contend with the European troops in regular warfare, yet if they abandon their earthwork system, and take to the bush, they may continue the contest for years, and cost the colony and the Government an incalculable amount of money and of blood, ere they are subdued.

The Union National Convention.

We have been requested to State, for the information of delegates from this State to the Baltimore Convention, that the headquarters of the New-York delegation will be at the Eutaw House, and that the delegates are requested to meet there, at 8 o'clock on Monday evening.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—There comes to us, from away out in Nevada Territory, a very respectable looking daily paper of seven columns, of this name—"*The Daily Old Piute.*" Will somebody familiar with the eccentric nomenclature of mining communities tell us what particular feature of journalism is signified by the term "*Old Piute.*"

Obituary.

COL. PETER A. PORTER.

The death of Col. PETER A. PORTER, of the Eighth New-York Volunteer Heavy Artillery, is announced in dispatches from the Army of the Potomac. Col. PORTER was a resident of Niagara County in this State, and we believe a lawyer by profession, in the prime of life, talented and wealthy, he goes to swell the long list of public men of this State who have offered their lives to their country, and have been sacrificed to the demon of war. Col. PORTER came prominently before the public in the early part of 1862 as Member of Assembly from his district. In the Assembly Chamber he was distinguished for the urbanity of his manners, by his power as a speaker and readiness in debate. During the summer of 1862 he was instrumental in raising a regiment of heavy artillery, since known as the Eighth, and received from Gov. MORGAN a commission as its Colonel. The regiment left for the seat of war in the Fall of that year, and was for a long time thereafter stationed at Baltimore. In September, 1863, Col. PETER A. PORTER was unanimously nominated by the Union State Convention as their candidate for the office of Secretary of State. He was at that time at Baltimore, in command of his regiment, and being notified by letter of his nomination, he promptly answered it, declining the high honor conferred upon him. His letter of declination to the Chairman of the Central Committee must have rendered him forever beloved by his soldiers. He declined because he wished to serve the country in the field, and for other and equually honorable reasons. He had recruited his regiment by holding out to the men the prospect that he would be their commander; he had promised to lead them, and he would neither deceive nor desert them.

Col. PORTER always desired more active service than that of Garrison Commander, and at the outset of the present campaign his regiment were organized as infantry and sent into the field. They had lost heavily during the campaign, but met their greatest loss on Friday, when their gallant Colonel was taken from them.

COL. HASKELL, THIRTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN.

Col. FRANK HASKELL, of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, reported killed in the assault on the enemy's works on Thursday, was a young, brave and meritorious officer. He entered the service as Lieutenant and Adjutant of the Sixth Wisconsin Regiment, commanded by Col. (now Gen.) CUTLER. Subsequently he was selected by Gen. GIBBON for service as Aide-de-Camp, because of his excellent judgment, his great bravery and coolness in battle. He passed through every battle in the Army of the Potomac, escaping unscathed, save at Gettysburgh, where he was slightly wounded. During Gen. GIBBON'S absence, while wounded, Lieut. HASKELL remained in the field, serving temporarily on the staff of Gen. WARREN when he commanded the Second Army Corps. During the past Winter, the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Regiment was organized, and Lieut. HASKELL was promoted to the post of Colonel, an honor he had most brilliantly won. He has now fallen, after three years of faithful service, a young, brave and Christian soldier.

The Rebel Prisoners on Johnson's Island—An Attempted Escape.

The Cleveland *Leader* of the 2d has the following:—A gentleman just from Johnson's Island furnishes us with the following valuable information in regard to a recent attempt to escape from the Island. He says that on Sunday last, at half after nine A. M., a plot of the prisoners to escape was discovered, which had nearly been carried into effect. It seems that a plank in one of the cook-houses, in the middle of one of the barracks, had been removed, and that a tunnel had been excavated, with an outlet beyond the wall of the prison-yard. In this hole, which was large enough to admit the passage of one man, were found three ladders, roughly constructed, three knives, notched into saws, a lot of bed-ticking from beds, tarred so as to be waterproof, a revolver, a dark lantern made out of an old fruit-can, with a hole and slide in one end, and three life-preservers, made of tightly-corked canteens, four to each life-preserver, fastened to a canvas belt.

The preparations for escape seemed to have been systematically conducted and nearly completed, though it is not known as yet exactly what the intentions of the plotters were, when the attempt to escape was to be made, or the number who were concerned in it. The scheme was discovered through one of the prisoners, who happened to be in the hospital, and who hinted that something of the kind was going on. This led to watchfulness and search, which resulted in the discovery of the plot. We understand that the discovery caused great excitement. The roll of prisoners was called, and it was found that none were missing. The excitement continued during the day, and many visited the spot and examined the hole.

It is rumored that the prisoners were so enraged at one who had revealed their plot that there was an attempt made to hang him within the barracks, but in vain.

Of course prompt measures were taken to frustrate the designs of the conspirators.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

Suspense and the Weather—The Prince of Wales Taking the Role of Royalty—The The Literary Fund—The Conference—Peace Prospects—Parliament—A British Diplomatist in Trouble—The Ashantee War Ended—France and Mexico—A Crew for the Rappahannock—British Merchants in Trouble—Rebel Minister to Rome.

LONDON, Saturday, May 21, 1864.

The difficulty of writing a letter *to*, when full of anxiety to receive news *from* America, is one I ought by this time to have grown accustomed to, but still it is no easy matter. My thoughts are in Virginia. We have rumors of what was doing or supposed to have been done a fortnight ago, movements, skirmishes, and reports of defeats and victories. What tremendous events may have taken place in the interval! But it is useless to speculate upon them, and I turn to my proper work.

The weather for three days past has been warmer for the season, than has been known in England for a long period, if ever. The mercury has ranged from 83° to 88° in different localities. This heat has been followed by thunder showers quite American in character. It was refreshing to see really sharp lightning, to hear respectable thunderbursts, and have the rain come pouring down in our American fashion. Thunder showers here are generally of a mild type, though as many persons seem to be killed by lightning as on the other side of the Atlantic.

The Prince of Wales has made his *début* in one of the most important functions of an English Prince—presiding at a public dinner. It was the annual dinner of the Literary Fund, and His Royal Highness appears to have gone through the ceremony of toasts and speeches in a very satisfactory manner. Somebody coached him for the work, and the speeches as they were prepared to be spoken, were, I presume, furnished to the reporters. They were not brilliant, but business like and sensible. This fund is open to any deserving person, native or foreigner, who has written a book, provided it be not one of an immoral character. Newspaper writers, magazine writers, reviewers, &c., are excluded. It must be a regularly printed book. Pamphlets give no claim. All benefactions are secret. The Prince stated that in all the years in which the fund had been administered, there was not an instance in which the assistance it had given to an author had been made public, unless it was done by the recipient.

The Prince takes more and more the *rôle of royalty*. He is patron of letters and arts, and the centre of rising hopes. A few days ago he gave, with the Princess, a gracious reception to Mr. WALFORD, one of the editors of *Once a Week*, and author of *Men of the Time* and the *Country Families of England*. The purpose of the audience was to offer to their Royal Highnesses the latter work, with which they were much interested, and the Prince conversed with great affability with the learned author, who, by the way, had a narrow escape from being a Yankee. His great-grandfather was Sir WM. PEPPERELL, who, in the "good old Colony times, when we were under the King," owned a large portion of Massachusetts, including the town of Pepperell; but, taking the Tory side in the Revolution, lost all his property, and came back to England, via Nova Scotia. Parliament gave him compensation, and in due time Mr. WALFORD became Scholar of Baliol, wrote *Country Families*, and is patronised by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Conference met on Monday last, debated for three hours, and adjourned for ten days. The month of the armistice is passing away, and the hope of a settlement satisfactory to Denmark or the friends of Denmark, grows faint and fainter. Austria and Prussia began by rejecting the basis of '52, and the Conference, to this day, has no basis of settlement. The Danes have been compelled to raise the blockade of the German ports, their only advantage, while the Prussians are at work demolishing the fortresses they have taken, and laying taxes upon the inhabitants of the conquered country. English sympathy is with Denmark, but I see no reason to expect that England will go to war in the matter. England consented to the partition of Poland. She not only consented, but assisted, by her moral support, and to a certain extent, by the aid of her fleet and volunteers, in the appropriation of several kingdoms in Italy. In Asia, England has done nothing but seize and appropriate for herself, during the last century. Germany wants sea-ports on the North Sea and the Baltic. A ship-canal is already projected to unite them. Why should England stand in the way? Germany wants Schleswig—for geographical, commercial and naval reasons, as Austria wants Venetia. England should not be unreasonable—and if, after a time, say on the death of King LEOPOLD, who is very old and cannot live long, there should be a rectification of the French frontier on the same geographical and commercial principles—if France should extend her boundaries to the banks of the Rhine, England would have no right—and no power—to protest against it. In the case of poor Denmark there is little hope. She has put herself in the hands of her friends, it is said, but her only friends are England, not disposed, and Sweden, powerless, to help her. Russia, it is said, will not oppose the annexation of the Duchies, if Prussia and Austria will oppose a Sclavonic kingdom or federation. England's choice, as one of the papers observes, is between "a disastrous war and a dishonorable peace." I have no doubt at all which she will take.

Parliament has met, after the Whitsuntide Holidays, but not to do much. Everybody expects an early dissolution. The speech in favor of suffrage extension, by Mr. GLADSTONE was meant for a general election. The remainder of the session will be spent in debating a variety of little matters—the recognition of the Confederates, affairs in Cuba, India and Africa.

A British diplomatist has been taken prisoner by a potentate of Thibet, and compelled to sign a treaty, ceding to him the Province of Assam, one of the most flourishing in India. It seems very absurd, but if the Englishman is kept as a hostage for the fulfillment of the treaty, it will be no joke for him.

As a rule, John Bull does not mean to back down. When in trouble, he commonly puts down his head, bellows lustily, shuts his eyes, and pushes on. But he has got into a scrape lately which he has been wise enough to back square out of. It was a war with the King of Ashantee—no mean potentate, who can place in the field forty thousand trained warriors. The British Governor at Cape Coast protected two refugees demanded by the sable Majesty. As they were not given up, the King sent an army to lay waste a province under British protection, and destroyed thirty or forty villages. Troops, English and native, were gathered to punish this audacity, but the country is not favorable to military operations. The roads are two feet wide, through swamp and jungle, and the climate so pestiferous that four-fifths of the European soldiers die, and those who live become idiots, and worse, if possible, than the authorities at home. Several British officers are now on the way home in this condition. Negroes from the West Indies are very little better suited to the climate. After expending an enormous amount of money and life, the war has been given up as a bad job, and Africa, or the interior of this section, left to the Africans, who must do their own civilizing in their own fashion. The English were fools to go there at all—they die, or become downright idiots if they remain.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs has just communicated to the foreign representatives of his Government the explanations of the American Secretary of State, respecting the recent resolution of the House of Representatives in regard to Mexico. Mr. SEWARD has explained to the French Government, that the Government of the United States was in no way responsible for or bound by the resolution, and had not the slightest intention to interfere in the internal affairs of Mexico. The circular of the polite and politic Frenchman is so guarded that it is impossible to know what his predilections may be as to the important question of Federals *vs.* Confederates. The Emperor wants peace. Of course he does. He wants cotton, tobacco, and trade. It has been said that he considered an independent Confederacy necessary to the safety of Mexico, but the explanations of Mr. SEWARD appear to have reassured him.

Whatever may be the ideas of the Emperor with respect to immediate or speedy recognition, which may depend somewhat on the character of the news by the steamer now due, it would appear that he has decided not to detain the *Rappahannock* in Calais after her repairs are completed. I judge that this is the case from the report that twenty sailors,

shipped on a portion of her crew, left Dover a night or two ago to join her. The Captain of the British Confederate steamer would not be likely to engage his crew, unless he was sure that he would be allowed to leave port. Furthermore, why need the *Kearsarge* lay off the port with steam up, if there was no danger of the Confederate leaving the harbor? As to one or two United States steamers stopping one that wishes to escape, the chance is very small. The *Rappahannock* will not come out in broad daylight, with Confederate colors flying. She will choose some dark, stormy night, or thick fog, when no vessel in the Channel can see the end of her own bowsprit, to say nothing of other vessels. Watching is a sheer waste of time. It has been tried for three years, and without the least success.

The excellent French London paper, *L'International*, announces that the Confederates have sent a special Minister to the Pope, Monsigneur LYNCH, Bishop of Charleston. Bishop LYNCH, who is an eloquent Irishman, and thorough rebel of the South Carolina pattern, will scarcely recognize his name in this announcement, but he has arrived at Cork, and will spend some time in Ireland on his way to Rome. Of course, his mission is to give him more prestige for his real work, which is to preach in Ireland, with all the authority of a Bishop to national representation, against enlistments in the Federal army. I do not see what can be done to circumvent him, but for the Federal Government to recall the present Minister to Rome and send an Archbishop in his stead.

MONADNOCK.

MEXICO AND ST. DOMINGO.

Latest News from Mexico—Maximilian not yet Arrived—Death of the Padre Miranda—Anti-French Demonstrations in Mexico City—Movements of Doblado and Uraga—The War in St. Domingo, etc., etc.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Tuesday, May 31, 1864.

The Spanish steamer *Barcelona* arrived at this port on the 26th instant from Vera Cruz, bringing news from Mexico City up to the 16th and from Vera Cruz up to the 21st.

The Emperor MAXIMILIAN had not yet arrived, but great preparations were being made to receive him, and his supporters displayed great enthusiasm. The war against the guerrillas was being vigorously carried forward, and official documents, as also private letters, represent those bands as suffering great defeats.

A letter in the *Estafette* from Guadalajara asserts that GARCIA MORALES, the Liberal Governor of Nueva Leon, had received from San Francisco, California, two pieces of artillery and a number of volunteers, commanded by Don PLACIDO VEGA, in order to defend the port of Mazatlan. But the latest intelligence by way of Tepic say nothing of this, nor does it appear easy to land people and arms when Mazatlan has been blockaded for the last six weeks, and we may reasonably presume that the French cruisers watch the Pacific coast from Acapulco northward.

A man, who has for many years acted a conspicuous part in the political intrigues and tragedies of this ill-fated country, has just ceased to exist. I mean Dr. FRANCISCO JAVIER MIRANDA, better known as "El Padre Miranda." I have in a recent letter mentioned his serious illness, caused by dysentery. Availing himself of a temporary lull in his complaint, which he fancied a permanent cure, he removed to Puebla, where his benefice was, and of whose chapter he had recently been made a member. But a few days after his arrival his complaint again grew worse and could not be checked.

The French had been considerably annoyed, and even alarmed, by the manifestations in the capital on the 5th of May. Persons of both sexes thronged to the pantheon of San Fernando, in order to adorn various tombs with wreaths of flowers. On this account a guard of soldiers was placed there. The *Cronista* speaks of several pasquinades fixed in different parts of the city. Amongst other localities, it designates the ruins of the "Casa Proteas." Opposite the imperial theatre were groups who shouted "*Mueras a Francia.*" Of these some were arrested. Also from the cafés issued groups shouting "*vivas*" and "*mueras.*" Similar scenes passed before the cathedral and other parts of the city.

Some military stores obtained in Brownsville by the agents of JUAREZ, had passed through Mier with destination to Monterey. According to the *Estafette*, the Imperialists in Oajaca were not at all pleased with the condition of their department. The Liberal troops of SINALOA looked too sharply after them.

Letters from Guadalajara give news of the arrest of thirteen persons for conspiracy, and who by this time have been tried by court-martial. In that district the French forces are employed in incursions to the neighboring estates in search of provisions. They have also had some fighting with the guerrillas at Poncitlan and Cruz Viega. From Jalapa it is asserted that the rising in Cosautlan had terminated fortunately, which was due, in a great measure, to the discreet arrangements of the authorities at Chalchicomula and Huatusco.

A letter from Morelia boasts of the enthusiastic reception given to MARQUEZ at Puruandiro, where he still is. A commission of the principal ladies went to San Antonio to receive him; there he entered a light carriage, which was drawn by the people. After a solemn *Te Deum*, a banquet and ball took place.

The commanding officer at Vera Cruz has published a notice that Gen. DONAY had ordered an attack on Nochistlan, which, after an obstinate resistance, was taken by the French; 200 of their enemies were left on the scene of strife and over 100 were made prisoners. The enemy lost four pieces of artillery, their mortars, their equipments, as also their horses and arms.

With respect to the favorite scheme of a great bank in Mexico City, it was rumored that the agent of some English capitalists, Mr. WILLIAM NEGOLD, had arrived, with the object of establishing a bank to be called "the London, Mexico and South American Bank," with a capital of $10,000,000.

The officials at Morelia inform their superiors that Col. ROSALIO ELIZONDO, a man of influence in that district, had joined the Imperialists.

At San Luis they affect to deny the importance of the military movements at Saltillo, the French account is as follows:

"In fact the Juarists marched toward Matehuala, numbering about 1,600 men, but Gen. MEJIA set out from "El Venado" to meet them, and they fell back on Soledad, whilst ATMARD, with a portion of his forces, marched toward "El Venado," thus supporting the movements of MEJIA, because it was reported that the enemy was going to make a vigorous effort, and to take the initiative with a large force. It is to be presumed that a knowledge of the real state of affairs, and the compulsory counter-movements of the Juarists, will cause a variation in their plans; but anyhow, this will be advantageous and opportune, for our party has an abundance of the elements of war, which their opponents lack. RINCON passed, with a small force, on his way to Cienega, and thence to Guanajuato, of which State he is Governor and Commander-in-Chief. He was at Pozo Hondo on the 26th April, next day in Yescos, and, on arriving at Satinos, had demanded all the arms and money in the place."

DOBLADO and NEGRETE, with about 3,000 men, had lately arrived at Cedral, whence many persons emigrated to San Luis. CARBAJAL continued, with other troops in the valley "De Purisima," on the road to Matehuala.

URAGA is busy organizing his forces in expectation of an attack from the French under DONAI. He has sent a circular to his companions in arms urging the leaders, each to make a simultaneous attack on the principal place of each department, as for example, GONSALEZ ORTEGA to attack Zacatecas or some other point, aided by BERRIOZABAL; ESPINOLA to act on Piedra Gorda, &c., and that URAGA would try Guadalajara. URAGA has lately caused to be shot three of the leaders of the cavalry of the discontented. There was great difficulty in arresting them; but of 500 of the mutineers, every fifth man was drawn by lot and suffered the fate of their leaders, the remainder were incorporated among the other forces of URAGA. The execution took place in Santa Anna Catlan, the commanding officer being Don TOMAS O'HORAN.

Among the parties arrested by the French in Guadalajara, is REFUGIO GONSALES, a liberal leader, and who, having been made prisoner by the French in the action at Colotlan, was afterward released.

With respect to the court-martial lately held in the capital, and presided over by Gen. COURTOIS D'HURBAL, who pronounced sentence in the name of His Majesty, NAPOLEON III., the termination was as follows: Col. SANCHES FACIO, was acquitted, Col. PINA, laws: Col. SANCHES FACIO, was acquitted, Col. PINA, sentenced to two years' imprisonment; BONBOMME, five years' hard labor; MORENO and GENNER, acquitted. The two guilty were also to pay the costs of the trial.

From St. Domingo we have a full account of the military operations which ended in the capture of Monte Cristi, which event I mentioned in a previous letter. The forces being all assembled in the bay, the troops landed on the following day, which operation was unopposed, as the fleet could sweep the land with its artillery. Ten hours were sufficient to land all the troops, composed of seven battalions, three hundred engineers, two companies of mountain artillery and a squadron of lancers, and also all the necessary stores, cattle, &c. Ten lighters and boats armed with mountain pieces protected the landing. The division was formed for the assault at daybreak. It had been the intention of the commanding officer to march the troops to the end of the Bay of Manzanillo, surround the positions of Monte Christi, and at ack them in the rear, thus cutting off the enemy from his sole way of retreating along the Santiago road. But this more military and certain plan was prevented by the recent rains which had inundated the low grounds. It was therefore necessary to march along the shore for three hours, protected by the light armed vessels, whose fire, however, did not reach the second line of the enemy's defences placed on a hill. The coast was not defended but the insurgents were strongly posted on the hill. Between them and the Spaniards was a brook which was deeper and of a worse bottom than the guides had asserted and over 90 yards wide. A mountain battery stuck in the mud, which delayed the third battalion; in the meantime the insurgents kept up a sharp fire, but the troops having all crossed, soon carried the enemy's works which were defended by 3,000 men. Among other papers found was one from the revolutionary Government urging the General in command to defend his post to the last, as the loss of Monte Christi would be the ruin of his cause and party. The latest arrivals from that point represent the Spanish troops as in good condition and well quartered. The Generals of the insurgents were POLANCO, BARRIO, MOSCOSO and PEDRO ARTONIO. On Sunday the merchant vessel *Mulatico* sailed for Monte Christi, loaded with corn and hay. To-morrow the steamer *Pazaro del Oceano* will take out 500 convalescent soldiers, and the steamer *Oriole* is taking on board mules and stores for the north side of St. Domingo. Two vessels carrying supplies to the insurgents have been seized off the coast of that island.

La Razon, of St. Domingo, tells us that lately, during the night, some unknown persons cut down a majestic palm-tree which adorns the principal square, and which has a political signification. The Captain-General, fearing the effect of the minds of the people, at once issued a proclamation, attributing the act to the revolutionary party which wished to throw odium on the Government as committing an act of which it entirely disapproved, and to prove it the Captain-General had ordered another palm to be planted.

A letter from the capital represents all there as tranquil. The insurgents are not to be heard of in Azua, nor yet in Bani. Some troops made an incursion to Bayaguana, when the insurgents fled, losing nineteen prisoners. President SALCEDO is said to be in Llamasa. DUPERRON is in Monte Plata; and MARSUENA, one of the principal leaders, was seriously wounded by his own gun, which burst, being overloaded, and inflicted terrible injury to his breast and arms.

The steamer *Europa* arrived on Sunday, bringing a dispatch from Monte Christi, which mentions that the insurgents having fortified themselves about two leagues from that fort, along the Santiago road, Gen. GANDARA sent out a force of one batallion of infantry, two pieces of mountain artillery and fifty horse soldiers, to dislodge them. The insurgents numbered fifteen hundred, but were driven from their position, losing twenty-one killed, but only one prisoner. The Spaniards had one killed and eleven wounded. The Captain-General considers this a great proof of the demoralized state of his opponents. LARA.

Movements of Uraga and of the French Forces.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, June 3.

Advices from Colima to April 28, say that the Mexican Gen. URAGA with 10,000 men was on the main road between Colima and Guadalajara, in command of an important position, and daily expecting an attack by the French.

DOBLADO was at Riendarez Negra with 3,600 and ORTEGA at Sierra Premas with 4,000 men.

The French declined to attack URAGA, finding his position strongly defended, and retreated to Guadalajara.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, June 4.

SPECIAL PAYMENT TO AN OHIO REGIMENT.

Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, (Union,) called up the House bill to provide for the payment of the Second Regiment, Third Brigade, Ohio Volunteer Militia, for the time they were actually in the service, without regard to irregularity in the muster, which was passed.

CONCERNING PUBLIC LANDS.

Mr. HOWARD, of Michigan, (Union,) called up the bill to extend, for five years, the time for the reversion to the United States of lands granted by Congress to aid in the construction of a railroad from Per Marquette to Flint, &c., and it was passed.

The bill to pay Wisconsin her five per cent. on the reserved public lands in her borders, coming up as unfinished business it was dismissed.

THE TAX BILL.

The consideration of the Internal Revenue Bill was resumed.

Mr. HARRIS, of New-York, (Union,) offered an amendment to the 103d section, which imposes a duty on the express business of 2½ per cent. on gross receipts, by adding the words "The amount paid for transportation to any railroad company or corporation shall be deducted from the amount of gross receipts upon which the duty is to be charged, under the provisions of this section." He said that, as the railroad and steamboat companies were to pay 2½ per cent. on their receipts, which would include the freight of the express matter, there would thus be a double tax levied, which he thought manifestly unjust.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. HARRIS moved to except from the tax of 2½ per cent. in the section relating to steamboats, railroads, &c., the amount paid for canal or other tolls and tonnage duties. It was rejected; yeas 7, nays 23.

Mr. CHANDLER, of Michigan, (Union,) moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the amendment of Mr. HARRIS, in relation to express companies, was adopted.

The motion prevailed.

The Senate then rescinded its action by 19 ayes against 11 nays.

Mr. SHERMAN offered an amendment requiring bankst to pay a monthly duty of one quarter of one per centum on deposits and capital block, and one quarter of one per cent. on currency issued beyond the amount of ninety per cent. of capital. The amendment was rejected; yeas 15, nays 16.

Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, (Union,) renewed his amendment exempting savings banks receiving deposits solely for the purpose of loaning them for depositors, and having no fixed capital. Adopted—ayes, 22; nays, 8.

On motion of Mr. TEN EYCK, of New-Jersey, (Union,) the vote by which Mr. SHERMAN'S amendment was rejected was reconsidered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The Senate, at 5 o'clock, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, June 4.

Mr. GARFIELD, of Ohio, (Union,) rose to a personal explanation. He thought his language last night might be considered hasty, and as a reason for his earnestness of manner, he caused to be read several letters to show that there was an association in Cleveland to raise money to influence the passage of the Bankrupt Bill. His colleague, SPAULDING, last night applied language to him equivalent to the remark that he lied. He did not choose to continue a colloquy with a colleague who had thus impeached his veracity. His colleague was in the maturity of life when he was a child; hence he thought it was cruel, unjust and ungenerous to apply such language, when he had borne with his colleague's illnature in consequence of his respect for his age. He had entertained a hope that his colleague would have retracted the language, but this was now dissipated, as his colleague had made expressions outside of a similar character.

Mr. SPAULDING, of Ohio, (Union,) said he had no knowledge whatever of such a combination as that mentioned to influence the passage of the Bankrupt Bill. No person in Cleveland, New-York, or any other quarter had approached him in the shape of promises of money or anything else to influence his conduct upon this subject. He challenged the universal world to produce such evidence. With regard to the charge of ungenerous treatment, he had to say his colleague exhibited an unusual degree of temper when he last night asked his colleague whether he had read the bill, in order to know whether he had seen therein a provision to prohibit from the benefits of the bill persons now in rebellion. His colleague asserted that he had read it; without reflection he (SPAULDING) suggested a doubt that his colleague had not read it. He now disclaimed any intention to doubt his veracity; but if his colleague had read the bill he did not understand it. He could not, to that extent, respect his colleague's intelligence.

Mr. JENCKES, of Rhode Island, (Union,) expressed his astonishment at the gentleman (GARFIELD) reading anonymous extracts from newspapers, and letters equally anonymous, in order to impeach the integrity of some one in this House.

Mr. GARFIELD, of Ohio, (Union,) denied he had impeached or impugned the character of any one.

Mr. JENCKES asked what, then, was the object of reading those papers?

Mr. GARFIELD replied he desired to give information to the House that a moneyed corporation was engaged in attempting to influence the action of this House on the Bankrupt Bill.

Mr. JENCKES, resuming, said the gentleman had caused to be read a slander on those in favor of such a bill, thus giving countenance to the Lobbyists. The gentleman had recognized their existence.

Mr. GARFIELD said their names were all printed.

Mr. JENCKES asked: Do you know them all?

Mr. GARFIELD replied he knew one of them to be a banker in Ohio. He understood that certain brokers and bankers in New-York and elsewhere are exceedingly anxious for the passage of the bill.

Mr. JENCKES said the object of introducing the correspondence was to slander some one and to arraign the whole House.

Mr. GARFIELD explained why he read the papers, that the House might know why, in his remarks last night, he exhibited such a degree of earnestness.

Mr. JENCKES replied that the gentleman ought to be more careful hereafter in investigating the genuineness of such correspondence. This was not the first time that the gentleman had read letters which were not sustained by the test of investigation. He challenged any person to say whether the Select Committee on Bankruptcy were influenced by any other motives than the public good. He said last night, and now repeated, he was willing to hear any gentleman who pretends to be a statesman make an argument to show why the measure should not be passed.

Mr. SMITH, of Kentucky, (Union,) moved that when the House adjourn, it be until Wednesday.

Disagreed to by a large majority.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Tariff Bill.

The following are some of the amendments made:

On acetate of lead, 10 cents per pound.
Bristles, 15 cents per pound.
Hogshair, 1 cent per pound.
Cassia, 25 cents per pound.
Dross cassia, 30 cents per pound.
Cinnamon, 40 cents per pound.
Oil of cloves, 40 cents per ounce.
Fusil oil, $2 per gallon.
Nutmegs, 75 cents per pound.
Mace, 50 cents per pound.
Brushes of all kinds, 4 per cent. ad valorem.
Castor oil, $1 per gallon.
Peanuts, 4 cents per pound; shelled, 6 cents.
Pimento, white, black and red pepper, ground, 25 cents per pound.
Salt, in sacks or barrels, 25 cents per 100 pounds; in bulk, 26 cents per 100 pounds.
Blue or Roman vitriol, 25 per cent. ad valorem.
Crude pica, 25 per cent. ad valorem.
Oxide of zinc, dry or ground in oil, two cents per pound.
On all articles not otherwise provided for, made of gold, silver, German silver, or platina, in whole or in part, forty per centum ad valorem.
On gold and silver watches, twenty-five per centum ad valorem.
Wood pencils filled with lead, fifty cents per gross, with twenty-five per centum ad valorem.
Artificial and ornamental feathers and flowers, and parts thereof, fifty per centum ad valorem.
Marble white statuary, Sienna and pearl antique in block, one dollar and twenty-five cents per cubic foot, with twenty-five per centum ad valorem.
On veined marble and marbles of all other descriptions not otherwise provided for, fifty cents per cubic foot, with twenty-five per centum ad valorem.
On metallic pens 10 cents per gross, with 25 per centum advalorum.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, moved a substitute for the nineteenth section, so as to provide that all goods, wares, and merchandise, which may be in public stores or bonded warehouses, or bonded for transportation on the day this act takes effect shall, when entered for home consumption, pay the duties under which they were imported. The substitute was after debate rejected.

Mr. KASSON, of Iowa, (Union,) offered a new section that for one year there may be imported free of duty any machinery designed for manufacturing fabrics of flax or hemp, and also all machines for ploughing operated by steam, at the request of County or State Agricultural Societies.

Messrs. Kasson of Iowa, Griswold and Hotchkiss of New-York, Arnold of Illinois, Mallory of Kentucky, favored the amendment, and Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania, opposed it.

The amendment was adopted by 67 against 42.

The Committee rose and reported the bill, with the amendments, to the House.

All the amendments were concurred in.

The bill was passed by yeas 81, nays 26, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allison, Ames, Ancona, Arnold, Ashley, Bailey, Baldwin of Massachusetts, Baxter, Blaine, Blow, Boyd, Ambrose, W. Clark, Cobb, Cole, Davis of Maryland, Davis of New-York, Dawes, Denison, Driggs, Eckley, Fenton, Frank, Garfield, Gooch, Grinnell, Griswold, Hale, Higby, Hooper, Hotchkiss, Hubbard of Iowa, Hubbard of Connecticut, Hulburd, Ingersoll, Jenckes, Julian, Kasson, Kelley, Kellogg of Michigan, Kellogg of New-York, King, Littlejohn, Loan, Longyear, Marvin, McClurg, Miller of New-York, Moorhead, Morrill, Morris of New-York, Amos Myers, Leonard Myers, Odell, O'Neill of Pennsylvania, Orth, Patterson, Perham, Price, Rice of Massachusetts, Rice of Maine, Rollins of New-Hampshire, Schenck, Scofield, Shannon, Smithers, Starr, Stevens, Stronse, Thayer, Tracy, Upson, Van Valkenburgh, Washburne of Illinois, Washburn of Massachusetts, Wheeler, Williams, Wilder, Wilson, Windom, Woodbridge—81.

NAYS.—Messrs. Bliss, Brown of Wisconsin, Edgerton, Eldridge, Fink, Grider, Harding, Harrington, Harris of Illinois, Herrick, Holman, Hutchins, Leblonde, Long, Mallory, Marcy McDowell, Morrison, Noble, Pendleton, Perry, Pruyn, Ross, Wadsworth, Chilton A. White, Joseph W. White—26.

The House then adjourned.

The Pious Work of Women.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

A middle-aged motherly woman, of great activity and perseverance, with a cheerful temper and a smiling face, in her walks of usefulness three years ago and more, found a Danish sailor at a boarding house, sick and neglected, sad and weary. With a woman's tact and sense, and a mother's kindness and care, she made those little arrangements for his comfort which he was needing, and soon he was enabled to walk out and enjoy the air and sunshine.

He called directly on his benefactress and her husband to express his gratitude, and accompanted them to the house of God.

The first gun fired at Sumter had just then ceased its echoes, and our sailor boy, though of foreign birth, was a true American in spirit, and ready to fight for the right. He enlisted in the naval service, and was among the brave fellows that fought their way up so gallantly from the Gulf to New-Orleans. Through all that fiery ordeal he passed unhurt, but fatigue, and exposure, and privation, brought on dysentery, and last Summer he was sent home on the sick list to the Naval Hospital, at Brooklyn. While he was away, he had written two or three interesting letters to his valued friend, thanking her for her excellent advice and precious sympathy; and now, at the hospital, as soon as he was able, he dispatched word that he was very sick, and that the doctor thought he could do no more for him.

The good woman, ever prompt and ready, soon responded to the call, and at his bedside ministered to his wants, and raised his drooping spirits. Her Christian instructions had not been lost. She told him of the sailor's friend, the sinner's Saviour. She repeated her visit again and again, and under the restoring power of the hopeful, happy spirit, that doeth good like a medicine, the sailor was raised from the gates of death, and soon came over to New-York and spent a week in the family of his friend, and then returned to the hospital to await orders.

Of his conversion he says himself: "I read one day the tract hymn, 'Just as I am,' over and over three or four times, and every time felt it more and more, and was enabled at last to adopt it all as the language of my own heart." And so commenced the sailor's new life. He has been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, and, like seafaring men generally, bravely shows his colors, and manfully stands up for the cause he has espoused.

He so far recovered his health that he reënlisted, and received the appointment of acting master's mate. Sent on board the unfortunate gunboat *Cæenango*, he was on hand at the time of the shocking disaster which hurried away thirty of his fellow-men into eternity. Our sailor-boy escaped injury, and, we learn, has received much praise for the cool courage he displayed and the efficient aid he rendered the sufferers in that dreadful hour.

The day before sailing again, he called on the good woman who had been mother and nurse and minister and teacher and friend to him, saying that he was now poor, but he hoped soon to be better off, and he would ever remember her and her kindness.

Another female worker found a whole family sick with the measles, and no one to do anything for them; she spent several days and nights with them, making the beds, smoothing the pillows, preparing the medicine and food, and in all these numberless ways, which only a woman knows, assisted and comforted them, until they were restored to health; and now the hearts of the family are won to the truth; they are found in the house of prayer, and are enjoying the benefits of religious instruction and Christian fellowship.

And another indefatigable earnest laborer is deeply impressed with the necessity of inculcating temperance principles in a district where she daily sees the evils of excessive drinking, especially among her own sex; and lately she reported *fifty-two* temperance pledges obtained.

The Female Bible Society, says of its agent: "The monthly reports of our Bible women, now *twenty-seven* in number, give us the 'missing link' to these homes of poverty and privation. We see them brighten under the influence of patient persistent efforts; neglected children, with newly awakened ideas of order and neatness, learning to make the garments purchased by their own industry and earning; weary spirits strengthened, and darkened, darkened minds illumined by the entrance of God's word."

The female branch of the City Tract Society have, beside a large number of volunteer visitors, *seven* women employed, at a compensation of fifteen dollars a month, devoting all their time, day and night, week days and Sabbath days, to missionary efforts among men, women and children, inculcating lessons of sanitary science and household economy, as well as the mightier matters of temperance, righteousness and judgment; and, beside the Bible women and the tract women, there are others engaged by various private parties, in similar operations; so that we may reckon as many as *forty* of these plain, unpretending, humble women, who, with all their characteristic devotion and zeal, are going into the dark and dreary abodes of poverty and vice, that they may transform them into homes of light, and life, and love.

How many of our readers are really interested in this City Missionary service? How many understand and appreciate its value in raising the poor and ignorant? How many will contribute to the support and enlargement of a work so imperatively needed?

A Plea for a National Bankrupt Act.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, June 1, 1864.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Knowing by the experience of the last nine years, that you are second to none in pleading for reform, allow me as a representative of a class of men who might be made much more useful to their country, in a commercial point of view, than they now can be, to beg of you to resume an agitation of this important subject. Some twelve months ago you had a series of able, pointed articles upon it, and still it was set aside. The delusion (for it can scarcely be called less) seems to be in those that oppose it; the fear that some rogue might take the advantage of it. I, Sir, plead for a law just as strict as it can be made, because an honest man can make a clean breast of it, so to speak, and not only not suffer by its strictness, but be actually benefited in the estimation of his fellow-men, if after a *strict* examination it be proved that he has no concealed property. As an example of a class who really need its aid, take the following:

To aid some friends who were pressed in the panic of '57, I injudiciously indorsed to an amount which, some two years afterward, robbed me of the confidence of my creditors, and of course broke me down. And I vow that, were it my lot to repeat this sad experience, I never would give up the *last* farthing, as I did. Reasoning with creditors, except to their pockets, is but a sorry job; and when a few days of sickness intervenes but little sympathy and still less help is found when needed, and a frown when one dollar is paid because it is not ten!

All but three of my creditors signed an acceptance of six shillings on the dollar. The lack of unanimity made it binding on none. And now, after three or more years' weariness to the flesh with duns and hints, &c., how much further from the goal! in vain we sigh for the time when we shall be free, not only from legal, but from every *moral* obligation. If I had had the use of my name and something to keep dunners at bay for a time, I have no doubt but the same iron will which induced me to live in the place where I lost my credit to regain the same, could have enabled me, if untrammeled, to have paid every honest claim. I know some similar cases, and have no doubt but there are numbers of them. My creditors are not benefited by my being kept down; but individual selfishness makes A dread that B is to be paid before him, and we poor unfortunates are ground between them. If one wanted to be dishonest, what is to hinder him from keeping property concealed as to ownership, notwithstanding the application of a gag law? Will you not, Sir, oblige this class of unfortunates by using your influence, and call the slumbering attention of Congress to the bill (5,000 or 10,000 copies of which have been ordered to be printed,) with the public as your listeners?

Very respectfully yours, A BANKRUPT.

The Christian Commission.

The following is an extract from a letter of a young Minister employed by the Christian Commission:

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, June 1, 1864.

Since our stations at Belle Plain, Aquia Creek and Fredericksburgh have been broken up, I have been here, having been assigned to the Columbian Hospital. Our delegates are stationed at each of the hospitals, and for the present this will constitute our main work. I am occupied, as I was at Aquia Creek and Fredericksburgh, in ministering not merely to the *spiritual* comfort of the dying, but in supplying the wants of all the suffering; I may, in fact, say that the latter engrosses a great part of my time.

We have sent on a large delegation to the White House. I expect to go there; but I believe that the most urgent demand upon me is now in these hospitals. There are gathered here from 25,000 to 30,000 wounded men.

I find a large amount of labor in attending upon the dying, receiving their last requests, attending to the disposition of what may be due to them, and taking down their last words. It is a sad yet sacred duty to the brave men who have fallen.

It is my opinion that the delegates of the Christian Commission have fully discharged the duty which was imposed upon them. But more than this, I think they have rendered services to the suffering soldiers which could not have been provided for in any other way.

I bear testimony to the unflinching self-sacrifice of all who have engaged in this work. There is, however, great need of further aid. Funds ought to be sent to the direct aid of this commission. It is true, much has been contributed by the Sanitary Commission, but we need more.

I do not mean to say that the Government do not provide for the sick and wounded so far as they are able to do so, but those who have brothers, fathers, and friends in the army must bear in mind that war is utterly subversive of all the comforts of life.

A battle-field leaves a host of wounded who are long unprovided for—large numbers die for want of attendance. During the time I was at Fredericksburgh and Belle Plain, a large number died merely for want of surgeons and attendants to dress their wounds. The delegates of the Christian Commission have done the work that properly belonged to surgeons and nurses.

The whole country may feel gratefulito that noble organization which has done so much for the relief of suffering and the preservation of life. I doubt not, more will be done when it shall be known what our work is, and how much we have contributed to the preservation of many lives.

I am compelled to say that many die for the mere want of the aid that *could* be rendered if the loyal and sympathizing people of the North knew what is needed, and how it is applied.

I ought not to omit mention of another subject.

It is often in our power to administer comfort to the dying, and those who are looking to dissolution. Many of them gladly receive what we say to them. On the whole I may say there is a state of feeling that predisposes all the poor sufferers to hear what we have to say. And the more so, that we do not come with mere homilies, but are actively engaged in ministering to their physical wants. M. M. D.

Reminiscence of "Old Abe."

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

During the FREMONT campaign I attended a meeting at Vandalia, Ill. The half dozen Republicans who had raised their banner in this Egyptian city placed a dry goods box against the old capitol, and Deacon BROSS, of the Chicago *Tribune*, commenced speaking. It was a Democratic crowd, with a *very* slight sprinkling of Republicans.

Very soon the speaker began to be interrupted by questions and sallies, a certain red-faced doctor being the main spokesman; and as the deacon seemed to be somewhat annoyed by this artillery, the fire grew hotter and hotter.

Presently there was a movement in the crowd, and it was announced that Mr. LINCOLN had arrived. Mr. BROSS at once yielded the stand and Old ABE began his speech.

The first thing which struck me, after having witnessed the virulent hostility of the audience, was the perfect confidence of the speaker; confidence not merely in himself, but in them and in the power of truth. He spoke with an easy, straightforward air, in the homely and familiar strain with which one farmer would talk with another across the fence, and it was easy to see that he had the ear of the meeting.

The "doctor" very soon began his questions to him, and it was at once evident that the interruption was anything but disagreeable. No war horse ever snuffed the battle more keenly than did the backwoods lawyer such a hand to hand encounter.

Both questions and answers have now faded from my recollection but the skill of the rail-splitter in this fight at close-quarters, his manliness, courage and self-possession with which he wielded the truth in the midst of that unsympathizing auditory are well remembered. There was a keenness in his ready repartee from which even his genial good-nature could not take the edge, and the crowd in spite of their predilections enjoyed the wit and joined heartily in the laugh against their oracle.

This gentleman grew redder than ever, lost his temper, and finally, in answer to some clinching question put to him by Mr. LINCOLN, answered by a mere quibble.

Old ABE looking him straight in the eye, rejoined, "Now, my friend, if you think that answer will be satisfactory *to your friends*] here, you are quite mistaken. I know these men, I have plowed with them and mowed with them, and I know that whatever their political opinions, they like to see a man, as they say, *fair*," (fair.)

The hearty applause of the audience showed that he had read them aright, and the doctor subsided.

BROOKLYN, June 3, 1864. B. F. M.

Soldiers' Letters.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It is proposed, by the ladies whose names are subjoined, to make a collection of extracts from the letters and diaries of soldiers, both officers and privates, for publication in aid of the Sanitary Commission. It is believed that much material of interest might be thus brought to light, viz.: thrilling incidents of heroic conduct and self-sacrificing patriotism, pure aims, and noble sentiments, expressed to mothers, sisters, wives, friends, on the eve of battle, from camp and field, fort and out-post, ship and gunboat.

Persons possessing such records are earnestly invited to respond to this appeal, by sending copies of them, with date, name, and circumstances under which written.

Communications may be addressed to Mrs. CLAYTON NEWBOLD, No. 52 West Twenty-first-street; ELLEN COLLINS, No. 97 West Eleventh-street; SUSANNA SHAW MINTURN, No. 16 West Seventeenth-street; ELLEN B. STRONG, No. 74 East Twenty-first-street; LYDIA MINTURN POST, No. 61 West Twenty-eighth-street.

Disastrous Fire in Fulton-street.

ESTIMATED LOSS OVER $80,000.

Shortly before three o'clock, yesterday morning, a fire broke out on the fourth floor of the six-story building, (brown-stone front,) No. 58 Fulton-street, in the premises occupied by J. H. HOLLINGSHEAD, electrotyper. The flames spread with great rapidity, and in a short time the iron doors of No. 60 Fulton-street were burned through. Owing to the height of the buildings, great difficulty was experienced by the firemen in getting the water on the flames at the right time and place. Four upper floors of Nos. 58 and 60 were entirely destroyed. From Fire Marshal BAKER, who was engaged yesterday, in investigating the matter, we learn that the fire originated in the electrotyping establishment, and is supposed to have been accidental.

The following is as full a list of the losses and insurances as could be obtained:

The first floor and basement of No. 58 was occupied by H. B. KIRK, as a fruit and wine store; the stock therein is damaged by water about $5,000; fully insured in the Bowery, Astor, Mechanics', Park, Humboldt, Greenwich, Brevoort, Globe, East River, Norwich, Albany City, Jersey City, Hoffman and Montauk Insurance Companies. W. H. TYLER, dealer in cigars and tobacco, also occupied part of the rear of the first floor; loss about $1,000; insured for $4,000, as follows: Firemen's Trust, Central Park, Importers & Traders', and St. Mark's Insurance Companies. Third floor was occupied by J. ARNABOLD, manufacturer of nautical instruments; loss $6,000, insured for $3,500 in the Brevoort and North American Insurance Companies. Fourth floor, J. H. HOLLINGSHEAD, electrotyper, loss $7,000; insured for $2,000 in the Phenix and International Insurance Companies. The fifth and sixth floors, together with the fourth, fifth and sixth floors of No. 60, were occupied by J. D. BIRD, silk hat manufacturer; loss $30,000, insured for $18,500, as follows: Williamsburgh City, $1,500; Merchants', $1,500; People's, $2,500; Irving, $1,500; St. Nicholas, $2 500; Atlanta, $1,500; New-York Fire and Marine, $2,000; Manhattan, $2,000; Grocers', $2,000 and St. Mark's, $1,500. Third floor, MOLLER & FORST, lithographers, loss, $2,500; insured $1,500 in the Corn Exchange Insurance Company; A. H. JOCELIN, wood-engraver, also occupied part of the third floor, loss $500, no insurance; first and second floors, occupied by E. T. & S. RYDER, hatters, loss about $10,000, insured for $9,500 as follows: In the Relief, $4,000; Rutgers, $4,000, and St. Nicholas, $1,500. The basement was occupied by Louis DARNSTADT, junk-dealer; loss, $300; insured $1,000 in Kings County Insurance Company. The buildings Nos. 58 and 60 are owned by E. T. and S. RYDER; damage about $12,000, insured for $10,000; in the Commonwealth $8,000, in the Stuyvesant $4,000, and in the Mechanics' and Traders' $4,000. The stock of dyestuffs, &c., of PARTRIDGE & HARWAY, No. 27 Cliff-street, is damaged by water about $3,000; insured for $120,000, in the following insurance companies: Park, Liverpool and London, New-York, Etna, Market, Hope, Corn Exchange, Hartford, Etna, of Hartford; North Western, Montauk, Home, Firemens' Trust, Kings County, Relief, Lenox, Enterprise, of Philadelphia; American, of Philadelphia; Peoples', of Worcester; Norwich, Albany City, Standard, International, Mercantile, and Massasoit.

The Regatta.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULT OF THE RACE.

The Regatta Committee make the following official announcement of the winning yachts in the different classes:

NEW-YORK YACHT CLUB, REGATTA COMMITTEE,
NEW-YORK, June 4, 1864.

The following named yachts are the winners of the prizes of the Fifteenth Annual Regatta:

First Class—Schooner *Magic*—WM. H. MCVICKAR.
Second Class—Schooner *Julia*—H. S. FEARING and others.
First Class—Sloop *Nettle*—L. D. SEMAN and others.
Second Class—Schooner *Annie*—L. LIVINGSTON.

CHARLES H. RASWELL,
WM. A. BUTLER,
SAMUEL W. THOMAS.

DROWNED.—The Coroner was yesterday notified to hold an inquest on the body of JOHN BAXTER, recently a porter employed at the Fifth-avenue Hotel. His remains were found in the water at the foot of Nineteenth-street, East River, and conveyed to the Dead-house, at Bellevue Hospital. Deceased was 23 years of age, a native of Ireland, and resided at No. 96 West Twenty-fourth-street.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, June 4.

FLOUR firm; Kentucky, $1 05; Red, $1 87@$1 88. CORN active; Yellow, $1 59@$1 60. PETROLEUM firm; Crude, 39c.@40c. WHISKY dull at $1 33.

BUFFALO, Saturday, June 4—12 M.

FLOUR in fair demand, and unchanged. WHEAT firm, and only moderately active; Amber Michigan, $1 61; Red Winter, to arrive, $1 60; No. 1 Milwaukee Club, $1 48, only limited milling inquiry. CORN firm, but dull; no sales; held at $1 35 for No. 2; at $1 40 to arrive. OATS 2c.@3c. better; active sales early at 82c., and advanced to 84c.@85c., closing firm. Other grains nominal. WHISKY dull at $1 27. CANAL FREIGHTS easier at 17c.@17½c. for Wheat; 15c.@15½c for Cor

THE RED RIVER CAMPAIGN.

Detailed Account of the Retrograde Movement—How the Gunboats Escaped.

A letter to the Philadelphia *Press*, dated Semmesport, La., May 16, gives some interesting particulars of the close of the Red River expedition. We quote:

"At Alexandria, the army found their stores, and here they gave the enemy battle to advantage, because the country is more open, being pretty well settled. We could and should have moved almost at once, had it not been for the navy. The boats were blockaded—not by the enemy, but by the want of water. There is, about 1½ miles above the town of Alexandria, a spit, grayish-looking soapstone range, at an angle of about forty-five degrees across the bed of the Red River, causing the so-called falls. It took me about as long to find what might be styled falls, as it took me to find what they called a hill in this country. However, it did not take me long to perceive that the navy was in an ugly fix at or near Alexandria, and that there were one or two ways of getting out of it, either by destroying every boat, or by digging them out. The spade, ax and crowbar were resorted to. Our army went to work to dam the river, about one mile below the falls, to the height of from ten to twelve feet, making the water rise at the falls about eight and a half or nine feet. It was a herculean undertaking, and but few had any faith in its success. I can see yet how incredulously the inhabitants would shake their heads at the idiotic idea of the Yankees, as they thought the undertaking of stopping the Red River. But it was done, and that inside of fourteen days. They began to build strong wooden works into the river, beginning at both sides at once, throwing the water in the centre. These wooden dams were covered with stone, which they brought down the river on flatboats, pulled by mules from the very rocks that made the obstruction and forced us to build this dam. All deserted brick buildings in the neighborhood were pulled down, and the bricks used for ballast at the dam. On the west side of Red River, about a mile from the dam, stood a very large sugar-house. The building, with machinery, kettles, &c., &c., must have cost several hundred thousand dollars. The whole, with machinery and all, was moved to the Red River, and there sunk. The centre of the dam was shut by coal-boats belonging to the navy, which were filled with stones, dirt, iron, &c., and then sunk. From four to five thousand men worked day and night for fourteen days. Two of the boats were one night washed out, and formed a channel large enough for the boats to pass through.

ESCAPE OF THE GUNBOATS.

The guns of the boats and their plating were removed, and so lightened that they all got over safe, and passed through the rapids caused by the rush of water in the opening of the dam under the gaze of thousands. This dam will, most likely, stand longer than the rebels wish. It would take more men and longer time to destroy it than it took to build it. It stops the navigation of the Red River more effectively than anything the rebels ever conceived. A boat once below the dam can never expect to get back again, no more than one could run up the rapids of the Niagara. The river may make a new bed, and as the torrent of this artificial fall is directed against the town, the first rise of water may cause Alexandria to be washed away.

I should like to have seen the faces of the rebels when they got to Alexandria, and saw how we got the navy away, which they had already considered a sure prize. DICK TAYLOR was so sure of its capture that he had declared that all the boats captured belonged to himself. On the morning of the 13th, all the boats were over the dam, and as the army had moved already the previous night, it began to look desolate. While we were building this dam, the rebs were busy annoying our front, and trying to cut off our connection, and imagined it a pretty sure thing to gobble up the whole army. They half succeeded tolerably well, as no boat could get up or down the river for about ten days. They destroyed two transports and captured two gunboats, which they sunk to prevent our other transports from getting down. The dam-work foiled their designs, however, and not a boat was left behind or seriously injured down the Red River.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

About dusk of the 12th the army was in motion. There were apprehensions felt that Alexandria might be set on fire by some rascals. Gen. BANKS gave strict orders, which were executed in the best of style by Gen. GROVER. Double-guards were kept at all the street-crossings, and all buildings closed at the setting in of night. Everything was well until about 9 o'clock A. M., on the 13th, when a fire broke out in a small two-story building on the levee. All troops about town were set to work to extinguish the flames. There were no fire-engines that could be used, and no water except in the river. Everything was done to prevent the further progress of the flames. Gen. BANKS, with his whole Staff, were at work. About 10 o'clock the wind got stronger, and set in the direction of the town. The flames became master, and in about five hours two-thirds of Alexandria was laid in ashes. All the roofs being covered with shingles, old and dried to cinder by the long drought, and most of the houses being frame buildings, the flames spread at a fearful rate.

DEPARTURE FROM ALEXANDRIA.

Gen. BANKS left with his staff toward evening. The whole army had taken the river road, which leads along the levee on the right bank of the river. Our advance had continual skirmishing with the enemy. The rebels had sent some two thousand guerrillas along the left bank, who annoyed our transports all the way down, but they received many a dose from the accompanying gunboats. It is no wonder that so few casualties have occurred in the crowded transports, considering the very close proximity of the firing party. About fifteen miles below Alexandria, the column was joined by Gen. A. J. SMITH's corps, who had held the advance in the interior roads. The march was a perfect success, although the rear, under Gen. LAWLER, was continually at work chastising the rebels who were following in their wake. On Sunday afternoon, the 15th, our column had got on the road to Semmesport, as far as Marksville, on the prairie Avoyelles. Here it was expected that a decisive battle would be fought. The enemy had all the advantage of position. Gen. GROVER, commanding the advance, met the enemy in force on the other side on Marksville. The enemy were about four thousand strong at Fort de Russey, about three to four miles to the east. As soon as they heard of our success in getting the gunboats over the falls and our march down the river, they left and fell back to their main force. The fight near Marksville was very spirited for a while, and all the troops were brought into readiness to begin the bloody work early next morning. About rundown a messenger from Admiral PORTER met BANKS, and brought the cheering news that GRANT had whipped LEE. The news spread like wildfire through the different commands, and cheer upon cheer rent the air as soon as it was known. It was a good time to get this news—just on the eve of a battle. The troops laid down in battle-line, ready to jump to arms at the first tap of the drum. Long before daybreak, on the 16th, column after column moved to their new positions in the front. I was anxious to see a battle on a prairie. All the movements could be discerned, and when the General went to the front it looked more like an immense review than anything else, although the shells were ploughing through the air for some time, making hideous sounds. The movements, under the personal supervision of the new chief of staff, Gen. DWIGHT, were most admirably executed. The artillery fire got very lively, and SMITH's command moved on the right to cut off the enemy's retreat. He succeeded in cutting him off from one road, but not wishing to fight a battle on open ground, and being afraid of being out-generaled and whipped, he cleared out on the double-quick, taking the Opelousas road, running under a right angle with our road to Semmesport. He kept up a very spirited fire from his artillery until he had got his force pretty well off the field and into the woods. There was some excellent firing done on both sides. We lost only a few men. The enemy carried about two hundred wounded off the field, and many killed. The artillery duel (for such it was) lasted about five hours. It was a splendid sight. You could see each and every movement of the troops, every gun fired and every shell burst. The enemy saw our marshaled troops and thought it safer to run than to fight.

ARRIVAL AT SEMMESPORT.

We continued our march quietly through a few little towns down the bayou toward Semmesport, which our advance reached that day. After the troops began to arrive next day, the transports, which had already at the head of the Atchafalaya, were ordered down and placed alongside of each other across the whole stream, thereby forming the most beautiful and substantial bridge ever used by an army to cross a stream.

Semmesport was at one time a very important port on the Atchafalaya. Nothing is left of the place but a small, neat-looking frame church, not yet finished. Gen. SMITH had the rear, and he laid close to some very extensive and strong earthworks the rebels had built at the junction of Bayou Blaze and Yellow Bayou, about two miles in the rear of Semmesport. The enemy began to press him on the 18th. He accepted the challenge, and fought them for the greater part of the afternoon, killing and wounding about 150, and capturing some 200. Next morning early Gen. CAMBY arrived in a gunboat, and stayed until all the troops were over. The whole force, infantry, cavalry and artillery, along with their immense train, crossed day and night, and sixty hours after the construction of this novel steam-bridge everything had crossed. The column took up the march toward the mouth of the Red River. The bridge was broken and all the transports started about six o'clock on Friday, the 20th, for the mouth of the Red, where they all stopped. We arrived in the *Universe* about eight o'clock in the evening. It was a beautiful moonlight night. The sight here was sublime. Illuminations of red, white and blue lights up the Mississippi and Red Rivers made a picture not surpassed by any illumination. We left about 9½ o'clock, and started for New-Orleans. At Turisca's Bend, about twenty-seven miles above Port Hudson, the rebels had a battery for the last five or six days. We expected to get it peppering there, and our expectations were realized. Our vessel was fired at by two pieces of cannon and about thirty or forty muskets. Four shells burst in the vessel, and the bullets riddled the sides pretty well. Strange to say, not a person was hurt. One shell burst in the main hall, where about one hundred persons were either talking or sleeping. The pieces went through the floor and scattered about in every direction, but hurt no one. There was a brass howitzer on deck, which was a double-shotter, and fired under the direction of Lieut. BERRY. Our shells could be seen bursting immediately over the pieces where their guns were stationed. The guerrillas who hovered about were also troubled somewhat by the unerring aim of about a score of the headquarter troops, under the command of their able Capt. FRANCIS. We reached New-Orleans safely about noon on the 21st. The Red River expedition of 1864 may be considered concluded. As the mail closes in a few minutes, I am compelled to close, reserving some incidents and a general description of the country for one of my next.

UNION.

THE CROOK AND AVERILL EXPEDITION.

Fight with John Morgan—Order from Gen. Averill—Official Figures of Losses in the Expedition.

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Commercial.

BUNGER'S MILL, NEAR LEWISBURGH, Va., Wednesday, May 4, 1864.

Leaving our camp at Charleston, Va., May 1, with three days' rations and two days' forage, we traveled day and night, over mountain paths, impassable except by a single unpoper leading his horse, until the evening of the 5th, when we struck and drove off a cavalry force near Jeffersonville, Va., and then making a detour via Princetown, by a rapid ride all night and the next two days, we reached Cove Mountain Gap, near Wytheville, the afternoon of the 10th, where we found the notorious JOHN MORGAN posted, with 5,000 men and four pieces of artillery, so say the Richmond papers of the 16th.

Having less than two thousand men, worn with fatigue and hunger, and our horses in a worn condition, we did not hesitate to attack him at once in his well-chosen position, but being greatly outnumbered and surrounded on three sides, and having no artillery, we did the next best thing we could, that is, to fight him closely for four hours, punish his command much more severely than he did ours, and compel him to remain there until our forces could accomplish their work at other points. Thirteen days and several nights we were in the saddle in the mountains, climbing and sliding down their steep sides; raining almost daily; fording and swimming the swollen streams, until we were fully satisfied that although "riding a raid" might read well on paper, the riding itself was anything but pleasant, and especially so when short of grub.

ORDER FROM GEN. AVERILL.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DEPARTMENT, WEST VIRGINIA, Monday, MAY 23, 1864.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 5.—The Brigadier-General commanding Cavalry Division, desires to express his sincere thanks to the officers and men of the division, for the uncomplaining fortitude with which they have endured the terrible vicissitudes, incident to their recent march of three hundred and fifty miles, over mountains without roads, and the unwavering courage with which they attacked and held a superior force of the enemy near Wytheville, on the 10th, thereby enabling another command to accomplish its purposes without the opposition of overwhelming numbers. Your country will remember your heroism with gratitude; and the noble sacrifices and sufferings of our fallen comrades will be cherished forever in our memories. The Fourteenth Pennsylvania and First Virginia Cavalry first received the shock of battle, while the Second and Third Virginia Cavalry and Thirty-fourth Ohio Infantry established a line, which the enemy had reason to respect and remember. Great credit is due to the brigade Commanders, Brig.-Gen. DUFFIE and Col. SCHOONMAKER, for the energy and skill they displayed. While the conduct of all was admirable and deserving the praise of the Brigadier-General commanding, he desires, without making invidious distinction, to express his high appreciation of the steady and skillful evolutions of the Second Virginia Cavalry, under Col. POWELL, upon the field of battle. It was a dress parade, which continued without disorder, under a heavy fire, during four hours.

The purposes of the enemy were foiled by the engagement. The railroad was reached and destroyed. New River crossed, and the baffled columns of the enemy arrived in time to witness the destruction, which all the energies of their superior force, even with artillery, failed to prevent.

The Division Commander also wishes to thank the officers and men of the division, who have treated the inhabitants of the country with that courtesy, dignity and magnanimity which is inseparable from their courage and greatness. Such conduct cannot fail to awaken in the hearts of this deluded people, a respect and love for the Government we are determined to restore and maintain.

While we bring death and destruction to rebels in arms, let our bearing toward the helpless and peaceful citizens not be unbecoming soldiers of the United States. Those now unworthy men who have disgraced themselves and us by acts of lawless pillage, should receive the scorn and contempt of ever honorable soldier in the command, and every effort should be made to bring them to the punishment they deserve. (Signed,) W. AVERILL,

Brigadier General Commanding.

[Official,] HUBBARD RUMSEY, A. A. G.

Another correspondent of the same paper says:

The entire command of Gen. CROOK is now at an available point, and will move in a few days in the right direction. I expect to chronicle stirring news for you within the next fortnight, as our dashing and practical young commanders will never halt in the pathway of glory and duty so long as an enemy obstructs it.

Below I annex a summary of killed and wounded, kindly furnished me by Dr. E. M. KELLOG, Chief Division Medical Director, of Gen. CROOK's command.

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

	Killed.	Wounded.
First Brigade—23d Ohio	21	78
First Brigade—36th Ohio	4	19
First Brigade—3d Ohio	3	31
Second Brigade—91st Ohio	2	25
Second Brigade—9th Virginia	46	135
Second Brigade—12th Ohio	9	69
Second Brigade—14th Virginia	13	62
Third Brigade—3d Penna. Reserves	3	37
Third Brigade—4th Penna. Reserves	6	33
Third Brigade—11th Virginia	1	14
Third Brigade—16th Virginia	1	18
Recapitulation.		
Total casualties in First Brigade	28	118
Second Brigade	67	285
Third Brigade	11	102
Grand Total.		
	Killed.	Wounded. Missing.
Infantry	109	505 —
Artillery	—	8 —
Cavalry	17	72 34

PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLIES.

Proceedings of the Old and New School Branches—Final Adjournment of the Old School.

UNION OF OLD AND NEW-SCHOOL BRANCHES.

In the New School General Assembly, in session at Dayton, O., on Wednesday last, in reply to an overture from the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, in regard to appointing a committee to confer with a similar committee of the Old School Church, as to the practicability and the terms of reunion, the following overture was unanimously adopted:

1. That this assembly cordially esteems all signs of increased love and union among those who hold to the fundamental facts and doctrines of the Gospel, and bear its solemn testimony, with self-humiliation against whatever fosters alienation and genders strife among the disciples of the Lord.

2. That the tendencies of modern society, the condition of Protestant Christianity, the increase of infidelity, the progress of Romanism, and the present prospective state of our country afford powerful arguments against further subdivisions, and in favor of that union and unity of the church, into which it is to grow, and which is to be the consummation; and that we record with unfeigned gratitude our profound conviction that the spirit of disunion and sectarianism is waning, and that the spirit of brotherly kindness and mutual confidence is largely on the increase.

3. That in an especial manner are those churches bound to foster this spirit who adopt the same standards of faith and order, and whose divisions are local, personal and incidental, and for whose reunion there is only needed a wise deference to each others' rights, and a higher measure of Christian charity. Adopting the same formulas of faith and form of Government, all that is needed is to receive them in the same spirit; and that as the churches represented by this Assembly did not inaugurate separation, so, too, they hold to no principles and views, and would impose no terms inconsistent with a full and cordial reunion, whenever and wherever the will of the Great Head of the Church, as indicated by Divine Providence, may open the way for us all to meet again on the same basis on which of old our fathers stood; and that we would rejoice at such reunion as a pledge of the future prosperity, and an augury of the accelerated growth of the Kingdom of Christ through the length and breadth of the land; and that it is our united and fervent prayer to our common Master that he would so remove all hindrances as to make a plain path for our feet, where we may walk together, being of one heart and mind in the ways of the Lord.

4. That while we do not deem it expedient now to appoint such a committee as that asked for in the memorial of the St. Lawrence Presbytery, yet say that this expression of our principles and convictions, with our heartfelt Christian salutations, be transmitted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, now in session in Newark, N. J.

OLD SCHOOL GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

JUDICIAL CASES—A DAY OF PRAYER—SCHOOLS FOR FREEDMEN.

In the Old School General Assembly at Newark, on Thursday morning, members who were absent last evening when the vote was taken in Judicial case No. 5 were allowed to record their votes, making the final result:

To sustain 47; not to sustain, 119; sustain in part, 2; excused, 1.

Rev. Dr. KEEDS, from the Committee on the Docket, reported seven judicial cases.

1. Complaint of the Presbytery of St. Clairsville against the Synod of Wheeling, for taking exception to their minutes.

The complaint was dismissed.

2. Complaint of Seventh Church, Cincinnati, against the Synod of Cincinnati. This was referred to the next Assembly.

3. Complaint of C. J. Abbott against the action of the Synod of Missouri. This was dismissed.

4. Memorial of the pastor and elders of the church of Bloomington, Ill. This was also dismissed.

5. Complaint of Rev. A. N. West against the Synod of New-York.

6. Complaint of J. B. Saye against the Synod of Illinois. This was dismissed.

7. Complaint of J. Crozier and J. Mack against the Synod of Illinois. It was referred to the next Assembly.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE.

Resolved, That the overtures of the Synods of New-York, New-Jersey, Philadelphia and Baltimore, recommending a change in the form of government and Book Discipline on the subject of the constitution and courts of appeal, be referred to a special committee, consisting of Drs. CRAVEN, KEBLE, CANDEE and Ruling Elders RYERSON and LINN, to consider the whole subject and report to the next Assembly.

Resolved, That, in the judgment of said committee, a change be desirable and practicable, they be directed to digest and report a plan for the constitution of said courts for the consideration of the Assembly.

DAY OF PRAYER.

It was resolved that Thursday, Sept. 4, or such earlier day as the President may designate, be appointed as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer because of the sins of the nation and the church. This paper enumerates among these, prevailing covetousness, idolatry of wealth, sins arising from Slavery, Sabbath-breaking, pride, injustice and cruelty toward the Indian race, and the prevalence of extreme party spirit.

In support of this resolution remarks were made by Hon. Mr. RYERSON, Drs. ELLIOTT and MCMASTER.

Dr. TUSTIN defended the Government from any desire to injure the Indians. The Government treats them with justice, allows their representatives to visit Washington, and pays their expenses while there.

SCHOOLS FOR FREEDMEN.

The Committee on the Establishment of Schools for Freedmen report that this work is too great to be added to the labors of the Board of Education; call the attention of the churches and community to their duty to provide for the instruction of this people, that they may be prepared for the freedom they now are to enjoy. Committees to take this in charge are to be appointed, and the Board of Publication is to furnish the necessary books.

Rev. S. C. LOGAN, who has had experience in laboring among the freedmen, advocated their claims to instruction, religious teaching, on the grounds of justice, gratitude, humanity and Christianity. He has confidence in God that this oppressed and suffering race will be brought to light and liberty and Christian privileges.

C. C. WATERS, M. D., felt the more interested in this work because he had labored among these freedmen. God has a high and holy destiny before the colored race.

During the consideration of this important subject the Assembly adjourned.

REPORTS AGAINST DOCTORS WEST AND M'PHEETERS—FINAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly, Old School, on Thursday, the 2d inst., appointed two committees to have charge of the efforts for the instruction of Freedmen, as follows:

At Philadelphia—Rev. Wm. P. Breed, Rev. S. F. Colt, Elders M Patterson, J. McArthur, W. Hall.

At Indianapolis—Rev. J. H. Nixon, Rev. S. C. Logan, Elders T. M. Ray, C. N. Todd, J. L. Williams.

REUNION WITH THE OTHER ASSEMBLY PREMATURE.

Rev. T. N. HASKELL offered, but afterward withdrew, a substitute for the report of the Committee on the Memorials for the Reunion of the Old and New School General Assemblies. The original report was then adopted, together with three resolutions to this effect: 1. That this Assembly has witnessed with satisfaction the happy influence of correspondence between the two bodies; 2. That it is not expedient at present to propose any additional measure; and 3. That fraternal intercourse be maintained between the two bodies.

Several members of the Assembly spoke upon the subject.

Dr. ELLIOTT thought the time not entirely arrived for a union in one body.

T. BELL said if he could see both bodies united he would say, "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."

Dr. W. L. BRECKINRIDGE thought that the principles of this report are substantially those of the New School brethren, as represented by their delegates.

Various remarks were made advocating the union and harmony of the two branches of the Church.

THE M'PHEETERS CASE.

Dr. C. C. BEATTY, from the committee to bring in a minute on the case of Dr. MCPHEETERS, read a paper embracing the following points:

1. The Presbytery was orderly in its action.
2. The Assembly's decision is based on the record.
3. The resignation of Dr. MCPHEETERS and the unsettled state of the country justified the Presbytery's action.
4. Dr. MCPHEETERS's loyalty or disloyalty has not come into the question.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Rev. Dr. R. K. RODGERS presented a vote of thanks to the citizens of Newark for their kind entertainment during the sessions of the Assembly, and after devotional exercises the Assembly took a recess.

EVENING SESSION.

On motion of Rev. A. MCCARRELL, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the pastor, elders and trustees of this church, for their kind accommodations. Thanks were also given to the press generally, for its careful reports and courtesy to the members of the Assembly.

On motion of Rev. S. MILLER, the first eight days of 1865, viz.: from the first to the second Sabbath inclusive, were set apart as a week of special united prayer for the conversion of the world.

CASE OF DR. WEST, OF BROOKLYN.

The Assembly then took up Judicial case No. 6, the complaint of Rev. Dr. N. WEST, Jr., against the Synod of New-York.

This case originated in the refusal of Dr. WEST to give regular tickets of dismission to certain members of the Second Church, Brooklyn.

After the Moderator solemnly charged the members as a court, the documents in the case were read, being the complaint, the action of the Synod complained of, the proceedings of the Presbytery of Nassau, and the letters exchanged between Dr. WEST and the parties whose certificates were withheld.

Dr. WEST gave a recital of the facts in the case, of the action of the Presbytery and of the Synod until 9½ o'clock. A motion was then made to continue the session until 10 P. M.

The Synod was then heard. Dr. KEESE said that he was not prepared to defend the action of that body; Dr. F. K. CAMPBELL also would not defend the Synod; Dr. D. X. JUNKIN the same.

The complaint was sustained almost unanimously, and it was resolved that the Synod erred in deciding the form of the certificate to be granted to Mr. ROWLAND.

It was then moved by Dr. D. X. JUNKIN that this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly be directed to meet in the First Church, Pittsburgh, on the third Thursday in May, 1865, at 11 A. M.

The hymn "Blest be the tie that binds" was then sung, after which the Moderator led the Assembly in prayer, and pronounced the benediction, and the Assembly adjourned.

The Threatened Invasion of Kentucky.

From the Louisville Journal, May 28.

Advices from Eastern Kentucky are to the effect that MORGAN has not yet entered the State. It appears to be his object to enter Kentucky through Pound Gap, and he is moving with great rapidity, hoping to reach and affect the passage before the arrival of Federal troops to intercept him. Gen. HOBSON, at the head of a large mounted force, is pressing vigorously forward, and it will be a close race as to who shall reach the gap first. HOBSON has less distance to travel, and it is confidently believed that he will arrive in time to successfully dispute the passage of MORGAN. If he once reaches the position, MORGAN will be unable to force his way through, and his contemplated raid into Kentucky will prove a total failure. If by any possibility the rebel General shall reach the gap first and get safely through, he might avoid the column under HOBSON, and make a detour through the State. But such a proceeding would cost him his command, and we do not think that JOHN MORGAN entertains any flattering opinions in relation to Northern prisons. He would scarcely undertake such a hazardous expedition; then his only hope for success is to boldly meet the front of HOBSON and attempt to defeat and drive him back. JOHN never had any relish for fighting, and we do not believe that the men under his command will stand fire any better than himself. The main force is composed of plunderers from various regiments, who have a fondness for raids and plunder, but are imbued with an unpardonable dislike of anything resembling battle, blood and slaughter. MORGAN will not risk a battle. He has no confidence in his men. The only programme left him is to follow is to make a masterly retreat. Stars have been won by like generalship, and from them MORGAN derives his chief fame. We may safely conclude that Kentucky is safe from invasion, and set down the rebel advance into the State as a "big scare," and nothing more. MORGAN has assumed a threatening attitude, and created a flutter among the people. This satisfies his vanity. He will quietly retire upon his laurels, and our boys, under Gen. HOBSON, will be cheated out of a fight.

Official Dispatch from Admiral Porter.

The following dispatch has been received at the Navy Department:

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, FLAGSHIP BLACK HAWK, ONE CAIRO, ILL., May 26, 1864.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival at this place, four days from Red River.

The army had all crossed the Atchafalaya, and Gen. SMITH's division embarked. The gunboats covered the army until all were over.

Gen. SMITH, who brought up the rear, turned upon the rebels with a part of his command under Gen. MOWER, and killed and wounded a number. He captured one hundred and eighty prisoners and two field pieces. This makes eight or nine field pieces captured by Gen. SMITH, besides the guns captured at Fort de Russey, in all of which capture Gen. MORGAN bore a conspicuous part. If if just such men we want to lead our soldiers.

The river is quiet between this and Red River. The rebels had a battery on the banks below Taunica Bend, but the gunboats drove it away after a short action.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, DAVID D. PORTER, Rear Admiral.

From Western Louisiana.

REPORT OF A REFUGEE.

From the Louisville Journal.

We had an interview with GEORGE HOLLAND, Jr., a son of the veteran comedian, who has just been fortunate enough to escape from the Confederacy. He left New Orleans in June, 1861, with the rebel army, into which he had been persuaded, when only 14 years old, as a drummer boy, but after serving sixteen months he succeeded in getting a discharge, on account of his youth, after the battle of Sharpsburgh, and obtained a permit to pass to the Federal lines, for the purpose of rejoining his father. To accomplish this he paid $17 50 for a second-class *pony*, and rode nearly five hundred miles—from Shreveport to Gaines' Landing, Arkansas—where he delivered himself up to Major TALLADAY, in command of the steamer *Baltic*, of the Memphis marine fleet, and took the oath of allegiance to the United States on the 17th inst. Mr. HOLLAND says the citizens of Shreveport and its vicinity were generally prepared to welcome the Federal army, and return to their allegiance, being heartily tired of the war, and thoroughly exhausted. They confidently expected that Gen. BANKS would be successful, and his reverse occasioned as much surprise to them as it has produced regret in the loyal States. As an evidence of the distress at Shreveport, Mr. HOLLAND paid $146 for seven yards of home-spun gray cotton cloth, and gave $50 for making a suit, $35 for a shirt of the same material, and $50 for a pair of smuggled shoes. In that city board was $55 per diem for man and horse, while the luxuries, as well as the necessaries supplied, consisted solely of corn bread and pork, and there was no fodder in the country. No one can obtain anything to live upon but what they make. The conscription was still rigidly enforced, and guards line the road from Shreveport at every half mile, who seize all persons between 18 and 45, whatever their business or condition, and force them into the rebel ranks. Mr. HOLLAND left our city on the mail-boat yesterday, and we congratulate him upon his happy deliverance, and the prospect of his speedy meeting with his father in New-York.

Pay of Persons Enlisted in the Navy.

The following pay-table has been prepared by the Navy Department for persons enlisted in the navy, except those for receiving ships or other special service. It is to take effect on the 1st of July, 1864:

	Pay 1st.	Pay 2d.	Pay 3d.	Mounts. 3d.
	Rate.	Rate.	Rate.	Rate.
Chief Boatswain's Mates	$30	$30	$—	$—
Boatswain's Mates in charge	30	30	30	30
Boatswain's Mates	27	27	27	27
Chief Gunner's Mates	30	30	—	—
Gunner's Mates in Charge	30	30	30	30
Gunner's Mates	27	27	27	27
Chief Quartermasters	30	30	28	28
Quartermasters	25	25	25	25
Coxswains to Commanders-in-Chief	30	30	30	30
Coxswains	25	25	25	25
Captains of Forecastle	25	25	25	25
Captains of Tops	25	25	25	25
Quarter Gunners	25	25	25	25
Carpenter's Mates	30	30	30	30
Carpenters, including Caulkers	20	20	20	20
Sailmaker's Mates	25	25	25	25
Painter's Mates	25	25	—	—
Painters	22	22	22	22
Coopers	23	22	22	22
Armorers	35	30	—	—
Armorer's Mates	22	22	22	22
Captains of Hold	25	25	25	25
Ship's Cooks	25	25	25	25
Bakers	25	25	22	22
Yeoman	45	40	35	30
Master-at-Arms	40	35	30	25
Surgeon's Stewards, in charge	40	40	40	40
Surgeon's Stewards	40	33	25	25
Paymaster's Stewards	33	33	33	33
School Masters	36	30	25	20
Ship's Writers	30	25	20	18
Ship's Corporals	22	22	22	22
Masters of the Bands	35	30	—	—
Musicians, 1st Class	20	20	—	—
Musicians, 2d Class	16	16	—	—
Stewards to Commanders-in-Chief	40	40	40	40
Cooks to Commanders-in-Chief	35	35	35	35
Cabin Stewards	35	35	35	35
Cabin Cooks	30	30	30	30
Wardroom Stewards	30	30	30	30
Wardroom Cooks	25	25	25	25
Steerage Stewards	20	20	20	20
Steerage Cooks	18	18	18	18
Forward Officer's Stewards	18	18	18	18
Forward Officer's Cooks	14	14	14	14
Seamen	20	20	20	20
Ordinary Seamen	16	16	16	16
Landsmen	14	14	14	14
Nurses	14	14	14	14
Boys, 1st Class	10	10	10	10
Boys, 2d Class	9	9	9	9
Boys, 3d Class	8	8	8	8
Firemen, 1st Class	30	30	30	30
Firemen, 2d Class	25	25	25	25
Coal Heavers	20	20	20	20

Romance in Real Life.

A DELINQUENT HUSBAND SUED FOR THE BOARD OF HIS WIFE—DEPOSITION BY HON. D. S. DICKINSON.

From the St. Louis Republican, June 2.

In the Common Pleas Court, yesterday, a case was submitted to Judge REBER, the details of which have all the interest of a romance. The style of the action is as follows:

AUBURN BIRDSALL vs. WM. T. ESSEX, executor of the estate of THOMAS HOUGHAN alias THOMAS B. HUGHON, deceased. The plaintiff resides in the State of New-York. This petition sets forth that Dr. THOS. HOUGHAN, otherwise called THOMAS B. HUGHON, deceased, departed this life in the city of St. Louis, in August, 1862, and that by his last will, he appointed WILLIAM T. ESSEX executor of his estate. The plaintiff further states that the said THOMAS HOUGHAN, in the year 1813 or 1814, was lawfully married to SOPHIA L. KNAPP, who survives the said THOMAS, and who now resides in the State of New-York; that for the period of twenty years, he (the plaintiff) has boarded the wife of the said THOMAS HOUGHAN, and he asks that judgment in the sum of $5,000 be awarded to him as compensation therefor. The court, after hearing the deposition in the case, rendered judgment for the plaintiff in the sum of $580.

A lengthy deposition from Hon. DANIEL S. DICKINSON, Binghampton, Broome County, N. Y., was read, of which we give the following synopsis:

Mr. DICKINSON states that he was brought up in the same neighborhood with THOMAS B. HUGHAN, (Guilford, Chenango County, N. Y.,) that they were schoolfellows together, and intimate friends; that in the same neighborhood also resided Dr. KNAPP, who had several daughters, one of whom (SOPHIA L. KNAPP) HUGHAN married in 1813. Another was married to, and is now the wife of Hon. Mr. DICKINSON, the witness. Mr. DICKINSON's deposition then continues as follows:

THOMAS B. HUGHAN was a young man of peculiar talent, genius and learning. He had been unused to business, and he became (after his marriage and subsequent settlement in Unadilla, near Guilford, as a physician,) embarrassed with debts. Imprisonment for debt then existed, and Dr. KNAPP (HUGHAN's father-in-law) was an old-fashioned, rigid man, and after helping him a while, declined to help him further, and HUGHAN was put upon the jail limits for debt. He was a proud-spirited man, of great sensibility, and when he got released from the jail limits he suddenly left the country and went away. Before leaving, (the date of which I do not remember accurately,) his wife, SOPHIA, had given birth to two children, the first of which did not survive its birth. The other, a daughter, grew up to womanhood. He had always lived happily in his family, and no cause is known in the family for his leaving, except his embarrassments. As I remember, he left in 1817 or 1818. I never saw him after, till about the year 1825. He was said to have returned once, privately, to see his mother, wife and child, but that his wife being absent in Connecticut, he only saw his mother and child. With that exception he never returned to that section of the country nor to his family, as far as I know or believe. His wife divided her time between her father's family and my family and her mother's friends in Connecticut. About 1823 letters came from Dr. HUGHON, dated at Baltimore, to his wife and mother. That to his mother I read. It stated he had been abroad in a tropical clime for years, and requested his wife to forgive his absence, and if she was now living for her and his child to join him. Letters were sent advising him to return, but nothing more was heard of him until some time afterwards, when a letter came to his mother saying that he remained in Baltimore some time, but hearing nothing from his wife or the family, he was going to return South again. Nothing was heard of him again for some years. From subsequent information we learned that he spent his time in South or Central America during the wars then going on there. Mrs. DICKINSON and myself adopted his daughter, and she was married to ARMAND BIRDSALL (the plaintiff) in 1836, and she died in 1860. In 1830 or 1831, while I yet remained in Guilford, I had subscribed to a periodical publication, published at St. Louis, or in that region, in which a friend of mine had some connection. He was then acting as missionary in the Mississippi Valley. Not far from the year 1831 I saw some notice in the publication of Dr. THOS. HUGHAN. I wrote to my clergyman friend, desiring him to make some inquiry if it was the same HUGHAN. I also wrote to the Postmaster at St. Louis, asking him to inform me who Dr. HUGHAN was. I received answers to both letters, the contents of which I do not remember accurately. I also received one or two letters from Dr. HUGHAN himself. All this correspondence was burned when my office was destroyed by fire in 1838. I remember Dr. HUGHAN's letter. He stated he had been informed about my inquiries for his identity, that he had recently settled in St. Louis, a stranger, and that I was aware it was very unpleasant to be inquired for with a view to identification; that he was not the gentleman I suspected, and he knew nothing about him; that if I would appoint to meet him in the City of New-York, he would meet me there and satisfy me beyond question that he was not the person I suspected him to be. I had been familiar with his handwriting all my days, up to the time our correspondence ceased, and I recognized that letter as being his handwriting, although elaborately disguised. The West then had become developed pretty rapidly, and we learned the gentleman had removed to Springfield, Illinois. About the same time family relatives moved into the neighborhood of Enfield. They were furnished with an accurate description and likeness of THOMAS HUGHAN, and were requested to see if the gentleman at Springfield was the same. They were satisfied he was the man, and called to see him and charged him with it. He denied it, but upon being pressed, and the facts and circumstances stated to him, he confessed he was Dr. HUGHAN, of Guilford, but desired them to keep the matter secret, as he had married in St. Louis, and was a member of a church there, and maintained other relations in society. I sent him word through them, both by letter and verbally, that his daughter LOUISA was about to be married, and I received through them, (said to come from him,) about $200 for his daughter, which I appropriated for her use. From the time his identity became thus known, his family, as far as I know, have religiously kept the secret of his identity. From the time of Mr. BIRDSALL's marriage, or shortly after, Mr. BIRDSALL has cared for and supported Mrs. SOPHIA HUGHAN, his wife's mother. About the year 1855, I met Mr. HUGHAN at the Astor House, in New-York City. He had then, as I understood from him and others, moved back to St. Louis, having remained in Springfield but a short time. I identified him at once as the husband of SOPHIA HUGHAN. We had a long conversation, in full detail, of family history and affairs. He inquired, with some particularity, for Mrs. DICKINSON, his wife SOPHIA, Dr. KNAPP, Mrs. BIRDSALL and others, and thanked me very kindly and warmly for the assistance I had rendered his wife and children.

The above is the substance of Mr. DICKINSON's deposition. The court rendered judgment as above stated.

The Hundred Days' Men.

Recruiting for the hundred days' regiments continue to be very active in the North

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR $2,000,000 VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS' FAMILY AID FUND BONDS, NO. 5.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Comptroller's office until 12 M. of Saturday, the 11th day of June, 1864, for two millions of dollars, or any part thereof, of the Eastern Railway Company's Aggregate Bonds, for the purpose of providing a fund for the relief of the families of soldiers and sailors of the United States who have been drafted into the service of the United States, or who have volunteered to serve as substitutes for drafted men, or who have enlisted in the service of the United States, or who may hereafter enlist or be drafted into the service of the United States, and for the payment of bounties to drafted men, substitutes, or volunteers, under the provisions of the act of the Legislature of the State of New-York, passed March 31, 1864, and amended April 8, 1864, and pursuant to the resolutions of the Common Council of the City of New-York, adopted May 2d, 1864, and as set forth in the Circular of the Comptroller of the City of New-York, dated May 31, 1864, and as more fully set forth in the Agreement between the Comptroller of the City of New-York and the Eastern Railway Company, dated June 1, 1864, and executed pursuant to the Act of the Legislature of the State of New-York, passed May 31, 1864, and the Resolutions of the Common Council of the City of New-York, adopted May 31, 1864, which Agreement is now on file in the office of the Comptroller of the City of New-York, and which Circular, Agreement and Resolutions are hereby referred to and made a part of these proposals.

The Bonds are to be issued in sums of $1,000 each, and to be payable in thirty years from the first day of July, 1864, with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually on the first day of January and July in each year, at the Office of the Company in the City of New-York.

The proposals will state the amount of bonds desired, and the price to be paid therefor, which price must be not less than par, and the principal and interest will be payable in gold coin of the United States of the present standard of weight and fineness.

The proposals will also state the rate of interest upon the bonds, and the place where the interest will be payable, which must be in the City of New-York.

The interest payable during construction has been provided for by the Company, and the bonds will be delivered as the work progresses, and the Company expects to open the road for traffic early in the autumn of 1864, forming a new and very short route from the Great Lakes to the Eastern markets.

The proposals will be made for the whole or any part of the bonds, and the money received at the Office of the Comptroller of the City of New-York, on the first day of July, 1864, or the bonds will be delivered at the Office of the Company in the City of New-York, on the first day of July, 1864, as the bidder may elect.

The proposals will be opened at the Office of the Comptroller of the City of New-York, on the first day of July, 1864, at 12 o'clock M., in the presence of the bidders, or their authorized agents, who may be present.

The Comptroller of the City of New-York reserves the right to reject any or all of the bids if he shall deem it for the interest of the City to do so.

Bidders will please address their proposals to the Comptroller's office, and indorse upon the envelope containing the proposal the words "Proposals for Volunteer Soldiers' Family Aid Fund Bonds."

Each proposition should be sealed and indorsed as above, and delivered at the Office of the Comptroller, No. 9, Chamberlain's Office, City Hall, New-York, before 12 M. of the day above mentioned.

Blank forms of proposals will be furnished at the Comptroller's Office until 12 M. of Friday, the 10th day of June, 1864, at 2 o'clock P. M., when the same will be withdrawn.

Bidders will please write their names and residences distinctly, and state the amount of bonds desired, and the price per cent. offered for the same, in figures, at the end of their proposals.

Bidders will please state in their proposals whether the bonds are to be registered or coupon bonds, and if registered, to whom they are to be issued.

Bidders will please state in their proposals whether the bonds are to be issued in sums of $1,000 each, or in sums of $5,000 each

THE MEETING YESTERDAY.

The Nation's Gratitude to Its Brave Defenders.

The War to be Fought Out "on This Line" to the End.

TWENTY THOUSAND CITIZENS ASSEMBLED

Letter from President Lincoln, Speeches, Incidents, &c.

Last evening the citizens of New-York assembled in mass at Union-square, to raise their united voices in testimony of the nation's gratitude to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT, and to the armies of the Republic now under his command. Since the memorable April day when Sumter's fall aroused this City, no more unanimous or enthusiastic meeting has been held than the gathering last night. Long before the hour when speaking might be expected, the vicinity of the stands was occupied by a dense crowd of citizens who recreated themselves by cheering GRANT, President LINCOLN, Gen. MEADE, and the other gallant officers whose portraits or names appeared upon the banners and shields used as decorations.

Two stands had been erected. No. 1 on the southwest side of Union Park, opposite the Washington monument; No. 2 on the southeast side of the Park. Each of these stands was appropriately and tastefully decorated with flags, banners, streamers and Union lanterns.

In the centre of stand No. 1 was a shield containing a likeness of Lieut.-Gen. GRANT. A banner on each side bore the motto

"Unconditional Surrender,"

with the following lines.

The captured heights of Chattanooga prove
His readiness on rebel works to move.

His words and deeds with equal lustre shine,
While flanking Lee on the Virginia "line."

Surmounting the shield was a banner bearing a likeness of Major-Gen. MEADE, and "Gettysburgh," Rapidan." "Potomac Line," inscribed underneath.

Banners were displayed at other parts of the stand bearing portraits of Gens. HANCOCK, WARREN, BURNSIDE and WRIGHT, with the names of the various battles in which these officers have been engaged, inscribed upon them.

The central decoration at stand No. 2, was a shield upon which appeared the likeness of Maj.-Gen. SHERMAN, with the inscription, "Vicksburgh," "Knoxville," "Atlanta."

Far in the South, beneath the Summer skies,
The victor shouts of SHERMAN'S legions rise;
Still rushing onward, with the speed of light,
They gladly hail Atlanta for the coming fight.

Above the shield, a banner with the likeness of Gen. HOOKER, and the inscriptions, "Williamsburgh," "Chancellorsville," "Lookout Mountain."

At the sides were banners with the portraits of Gens. THOMAS, MCPHERSON, BUTLER and DIX.

In front of the Washington Monument were the portraits of Gens. SEDGEWICK and WADSWORTH. On the SEDGEWICK banner were the words:

Victory crowns the living.
Gratitude mourns the dead;
Fame is immortal.

Under WADSWORTH'S,

The patriot who falls in battle for freedom sheds lustre on the page of history.

The Washington Monument, the public buildings and many of the dwelling houses in the vicinity were gaily decked with flags and lanterns. At 7 o'clock the Committee left their rooms at the Maison Dorée, accompanied by the gentlemen invited to deliver addresses, and the meeting was called to order.

Stand No. 1.

The meeting at Stand No. 1 was called to order by Hon. F. A. CONKLIN, who nominated Hon. GEO. OPDYKE as Chairman. After a short prayer by Rev. Mr. BOOLE, Mr. OPDYKE spoke as follows:

SPEECH OF EX-MAYOR OPDYKE.

Fellow-citizens: I feel highly honored that the Committee of Arrangements have selected me to preside on this occasion. I regret, however, to say that indisposition will render it impossible for me to address you at length, but I congratulate you on the fact that there are many gentlemen present who will do better justice to the subject which these resolutions suggest upon this occasion than I can. Hon. Judge DALY will now read the resolutions:

SPEECH OF HON. C. P. DALY.

I rise to present a series of resolutions explanatory of the objects of this meeting, and which, if they meet with your approbation, will be expressive of the sense of it. It has been suggested in some of the public journals that this meeting was a premature one; in my judgment it is nobler and more useful to encourage and proffer our sympathy to our brethren in the field, now that they are about to engage in a contest which may determine the fate of this Union, than to meet afterwards when the work is done. [Cheers.] In these resolutions it is proposed to declare our appreciation of what has been accomplished, and our confidence in the determination and ability of the Army of the Potomac, its officers and men, to carry the old flag of the Republic to the centre of the City of Richmond, and plant it in that square where stands the monument of WASHINGTON. The issues of battle are under the control of Providence; and all it is proper for us to do is to see the men in the field. The Commander of the Army of the Potomac, who, by a series of strategic movements, which it was not in the power of the able General of the Confederacy to prevent, has placed his army before Richmond and gets communication with Washington in 24 hours; while, by destroying the means of communication in his rear, he has placed it beyond the power of Gen. LEE to repeat his previous manœuvres and threaten Washington by passing over the roads of the Northern States. The intelligence which has arrived to-day conveys to us the announcement of an important victory—that GRANT is now within the lines of Richmond, which it has not been in our power to do before, and our troops have captured the outer intrenchments. [Cheers.] I do not wish to speak in too positive a spirit, (for it does not become us to talk so in respect to contests of such responsibility,) but judging from the situation, I feel confidence in that General who has never failed in anything he has ever attempted, and I express my strong conviction that our long anticipations will be soon realized by the news of the capture of Richmond; for his position is such, and the position of his enemies is such, that it will not be in the power of LEE to prevent the entry of GRANT into the rebel capital. I say its capture is inevitable. If Richmond is taken, then the military stronghold of the Confederacy is gone, and what will remain can only express itself in spasmodic efforts. [Cheers.] Fellow-citizens, it is our duty to recognize every soldier of the Republic; and if we don't do it, history will. We have met to-day to express our gratification to the soldiers in the field, and if we dont do it, we should be stingy in the extreme. I have said, fellow-citizens, if Richmond is taken, the military strength of the Confederacy is broken; but after that, a series of considerations arise; it is easier to conquer a reluctant people than to govern them. The idea of applying to them the European system in this free Republic, would be absurd. A great duty will be imposed upon us, a heavy responsibility. It will be time, in reference to the future, to give up the habit of calling men, who happen to differ with us in regard to the policy to be pursued, "Copperheads." The right to declare ourselves, to speak our mind, is a blessing which it is the purpose of Republican Governments to secure. We are to bear in mind that we have a heavy responsibility before us. Even in the event of a successful issue of this war, we shall have a heavy debt—a currency which is day by day depreciating before the relative value of gold and silver, the common currency of the world; and while in this condition—while the foundation of this Republic has been shaken to the centre—how is it we still act up to that extravagance which is so characteristic of the American people? How is it in all Europe, with the simple exception of Russia and Prussia, the preponderance of good sentiment is in favor of the South and against the North? It arises from the circumstance that sympathy is naturally turned to the weaker side; especially where it exhibits, as the South has exhibited, constancy, courage and self-sacrifice; while we have on our part, indulged in extravagance of dress and such acts as have caused them to put but little faith in us. I do not mean to say we are to buy no foreign goods—only American goods; the natural laws of trade will assert their rights; and those goods which are both good and cheap will always command the market. But what I say is this: We can, if we like, dispense with unnecessary luxuries; it is heartless to indulge in them while the martyrs of this war are staining many a battle-field with their blood—sacrificing all that is dear to them for the defence of their country and its institutions. I will now, fellow-citizens, take the liberty of reading the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the series of military successes—the capture of Fort Donelson, the taking of Vicksburgh, the seizure of the mountain fastnesses of Chattanooga, and, finally, the advance of the Army of the Potomac against formidable natural obstacles, a heavy opposing force, and a skillful General, to within sight of the City of Richmond—are events so important in their bearing upon the successful issue of the war as to call for a public expression of the obligations which the American people are under to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT, and to every officer and soldier under his command.

Resolved, That the cooperative efforts of the Army of the Cumberland, under Major-Gen. SHERMAN, in its recent passage over the mountains and descent upon the plains of northwestern Georgia, call for an expression of admiration for the strategic skill and ability displayed by its commander, and for the dauntless courage and indomitable perseverance exhibited by both officers and men.

Resolved, That, from the commencement, and throughout the war, the American Navy has maintained its high character. To its cooperation we are indebted for the opening of the Mississippi. In its strength and efficiency we have found our chief security against foreign interference: and the emulative character of its deeds have been such as to claim, in equal proportion, the tribute which is due to our soldiers and to our sailors.

Resolved, That the movements which are now transpiring in compelling the enemy to retreat within smaller geographical limits, while our forces have the ability to advance upon his vulnerable points from several quarters at the same time, show the wisdom of confiding the sole direction and management of military operations to one General Officer. That having reaped little but disaster from intrusting important military commands to civilians, who, whatever may be their general capacity, have not the necessary military education or experience, we congratulate the country upon this change in its policy, and upon the fact that so responsible a trust has been placed in the hands of a man who has the universal confidence of the nation.

Resolved, That at no period, since the beginning of hostilities, has the prospect been so favorable as at present for speedy and successful termination of the war; but, to insure that end, it is necessary that our army should be efficiently and rapidly reinforced, that every effort should be made to stimulate enlistments, and that the young men of the country, who have the requisite vigor and nerve, should come forward and share in the honors which will follow their cause as the people fought in the ranks of that noble army by whose courage and patriotism the Republic was saved.

Resolved, That, independent of all distinctions of party, and irrespective of all political preferences, we declare our unalterable determination to unite in the suppression of this war with all our vigor and all our might, until those who have raised their hands against the freest and most liberal Government upon earth shall lay down their arms, and submit to the Constitution and the laws.

Mr. OPDYKE—I have now the pleasure of introducing to you a member from the far West, who, under every circumstance, has been true to this Republic and its interests. The Committee of Arrangement have received numerous letters from the President of the United States and others, which will be read, with your permission, by Mr. J. W. WHITE. Mr. WHITE then read the following letters:

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, June, 3. 1864.

Hon. F. A. Conkling, and others:

GENTLEMEN: Your letter inviting me to be present at a mass meeting of the loyal citizens to be held at New-York on the 4th inst., for the purpose of expressing gratitude to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT for his signal services, was received yesterday. It is impossible for me to attend. I approve, nevertheless, whatever may tend to strengthen and sustain Gen. GRANT and the noble armies now under his direction. My previous high estimate of Gen. GRANT has been maintained and heightened by what has occurred in the remarkable campaign he is now conducting: while the magnitude and difficulty of the task before him does not prove less than I expected. He and his brave soldiers are now in the midst of their great trial, and I trust that, at your meeting, you will so shape your good words that they may turn to men and guns moving to his and their support.

Yours truly,
A. LINCOLN.

LETTER FROM HON. S. P. CHASE.

WASHINGTON, June 3, 1864.

GENTLEMEN: The loyal citizens of New-York honor themselves by meeting in mass to express their gratitude to the great solder under whose lead the heroes of the Republic have achieved so much for their country; to reaffirm their devotion to the Union and pledge their energies to the complete suppression of the rebellion. I thank you for the honor of an invitation to take part in their patriotic action, and regret that the necessity of devoting my whole time to my official duties, will make it impossible for me to be personally present. Nothing can be said, however, in the spirit of your letter, to which my whole heart will not respond.

Permit me to add that while we rejoice in the success of our armies, and give thanks to God for them, we should not forget that there is one class of defenders of the flag—one class of men loyal to the Union—to whom we yet fail to do complete justice. I will be the marvel of future historians that statesmen of this day were willing to risk the success of rebellion rather than intrust to black loyalists bullets and ballots.

Very truly, yours,
S. P. CHASE.

To Messrs. JAMES WADSWORTH, JAS. T. BRADY, and others.

LETTER FROM GEN. DIX.

NEW-YORK, June 4, 1864.

Nathaniel Jarvis, Jr., Esq., Secretary, &c.:

DEAR SIR: I regret that my engagements this evening will not permit me to attend the meeting in Union-square, to give expression to the general feeling of gratitude to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT for his distinguished services, to reaffirm our devotion to the Union and to pledge our energies to the support of the Government. In all these objects I most heartily concur. No one can entertain a stronger sense than myself of Gen. GRANT'S military skill, patriotism, gallantry and unconquerable perseverance, and I hold it to be preëminently the duty of all good citizens at this juncture to sustain the Government with all their energies, in giving to the noble leader of our armies the means of striking a fatal blow at the rebellion in the stronghold of its power.

I am very respectfully yours,
JOHN A. DIX.

LETTER FROM HON. DANIEL S. DICKINSON.

BINGHAMTON, June 3, 1864.

GENTLEMEN: Devoted as I am, heart and soul, to the crushing the distardly rebellion which has so madly raged for three years past, I admire and honor, in a corresponding decree, those who have been most instrumental in its extermination. Among the first and foremost I recognize that distinguished military leader, Lieut.-Gen. GRANT—he is deserving his country's gratitude for services already rendered; and every hour is binding fresh laurels upon his warworn brow. I would gladly join you in testifying the popular appreciation of his patriotic and noble efforts, as well as his high military skill, but other engagements prevent. Sincerely yours,

D. S. DICKINSON.

Hon. J. S. WOODWORTH and others.

Mr. OPDYKE then introduced Senator S. C. POMEROY, who spoke as follows:

SPEECH OF SENATOR POMEROY.

I am glad in this hour of the nation's hope to mingle my heart and voice in the congratulations of the hour. For there is a new life, and a new hope is dawning at this moment on the American republic. When the light of the American nation was darkened three years ago by the fall of our flag from the shade of Fort Sumter, it produced an interval of gloom and saddened the hearts of all loyal men, not only on this continent but throughout the world. Three years have now passed with various successes to our army in the field. The light of the American Union has sometimes grown dim; but since the opening of the present campaign a new light, a new hope has dawned upon the American Republic. A new policy has been organized—"We propose to move on the enemy's works." I have come to-day to mingle my heart and my voice, in congratulation with my countrymen and mankind. Of our early trials and successes I do not mean to say one word. We are fighting the great contest of the age. This rebellion is of no ordinary character. We are fighting a battle not simply for ourselves—not for the men of America alone, but for all mankind; and as we value all that is bright in the future—as we value the inheritance left us—as we hope to leave to those who come after us what we received from our ancestors—we should unite. It is no time to divide; and every heart should be united to one cause, to one country, to one object, and hope, by all that is precious in the past and hopeful in the future, to secure the Republic intact in all its freedom and glory.

If we are true to ourselves; if we are true to the record we make and our fathers made, the result will not be long doubtful. In conclusion I say, sustain the army—sustain the leader—sustain the Government by all that is valuable in the present day, and all that you hope for in the future.

SPEECH OF CHAUNCEY SCHAFFER.

Mr. SCHAFFER, being introduced, spoke substantially as follows: On the 18th of April, three years ago, the people assembled in this same square had raised their hands to Heaven, and vowed the rebellion should be put down, though it should cost the last man and the last dollar. God, in His awful majesty, has issued his fiat that blood should be spilt on the altar of liberty; and we have stood by our cause. Already a million of freemen have laid their bones in the dust, and yet we thank God that the means are adapted to the end, and from the ranks of the people there is raised up a man in the land to lead the heroes of freedom to victory and to peace. [Three cheers were then given for Gen. GRANT.] Yes, a thousand cheers for those without whom GRANT would not be the hero of this epoch. He is the right man at last in the right place, from whom it will not be necessary to buy a passport to visit the other side of the Potomac. Depend upon it, a few more battles and a few more marches of SHERMAN and of GRANT—a few more graves and the South rejuvinated, the South disenthralled will shake hands in amity with the North. Then woe to the foreign power that dares to interfere with American politics.

Resolutions were then read, which were heartily indorsed, appointing a committee to call future Union meetings.

The Glee Club then sang the Star-Spangled Banner, which was loudly applauded.

SPEECH OF MAGNUS GROSS.

Mr. GROSS on being introduced made some eloquent remarks. He denounced the subtle reasonings of those who failed to stand by their country's flag under the plea that war was cruel and inhuman. Now was the hour to stand by the flag if the nation was to be preserved, for if once broken it can never be repaired. One skeptic says this war is carried on not so much for the Union as against Slavery. He answered that one might fight for the Union and the Constitution and the other fight against Slavery, as both are bent to fight, and conquer the common enemy of their country. Slavery or no slavery, you must stand by your country at all hazards unto the bitter end, it needs be. You must never cease to honor such a galaxy of heroes as our annals present—GRANT, MEADE, SHERMAN, HANCOCK, FARRAGUT, HOOKER, PORTER, and their brave associates. Their bravery must be our delight; their glory must be our pride; and their aspirations must be ours.

SPEECH OF HON. MR. ROLLINS.

The Hon. Mr. ROLLINS, of Missouri, was then introduced, and greeted with loud applause. He said: The gentleman who preceded me remarked that at least the free States of the North were united in endeavoring to put down this wicked and cruel rebellion; but I come to bear testimony before this proud people that the free States of the North are not only the States that are to enjoy the honor of putting down the rebellion, but the sovereign State in which I have the honor to live. [Three cheers for Missouri was then given.] From the beginning Missouri has not faltered in her duty. Settled and populated in the main by people from the South, it was but natural that she should feel sympathy for her Southern friends. But she resisted, unsheathed her sword and has passed through a fiery ordeal; and she stands out, to-day, the broad and bright link that binds together forever the States of our great and noble Confederacy. I am glad to announce, also, that all Unionism does not exist in the North alone, but in the Border States as well. In old Kentucky, where rests the ashes of the immortal CRITTENDEN and CLAY: in Virginia, also, there beat the hearts of men as warmly espoused to the cause as the people of New-York. She never faltered in the belief that this rebellion would be put down. We may not have reached the culminating point, but it will come, and this rebellion will finally go to the wall. There is too much at stake for a great people to give up such a cause. Look at our country, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific slopes—from the lakes of the North to the Gulf of Mexico! Look at our resources! And can it be that there is any American whose heart beats so coldly of love of country that he would give up his bright and glorious heritage! Breathes there a man with soul so dead, never to himself hath said; "This is my native land!" Is it the narrow spot upon which he happens to be born? Aye, my friends, this is the country which we fight to save; this is the mission which we have before us—to hold together all the parts of this country that gives us the proud position that we occupy amongst the nations of the earth. This thought has control led and guided my political action more than any other—this Americanism, when asked to surrender it, I answer in the language of the immortal CLAY, "Never! Never! Never!" Not until the last dollar is drained from the coffer; not until every feeling of patriotism is withered in the national heart, would I give up this glorious country to be overthrown by this cursed rebellion? No, this country must be controlled by the same Government. We can never, in the words of one of the speakers, allow it to be said that the grave of WASHINGTON is in a foreign land. [Cries of "No."] A few days since I visited, with my two bright eyed boys, the tomb of the great WASHINGTON. There I required them to lift their little hands, and repeat the oath which I recited, always to bear true and faithful allegiance to the Government of the United States, and never, under any circumstances, to forget the memory and the fame of WASHINGTON, or to desert the flag of our country which should wave in triumph and glory for ever over every inch of territory that rightfully belonged to the people of the whole of the United States. If you have boys, point them to that statue of WASHINGTON, around whom we are gathered; make them swear by his name and his principles and our common flag to fight on. I ask you the question, before the breaking out of this rebellion, where was there such a Government as the United States Government, with all its franchises and powers? Where was there a happier people under the sun than the Southerners themselves? [Voices—"Nowhere."] Southern by birth and feeling, yet I never felt the pressure of the hand of that Government upon me. I looked to it as the tender child looks constantly to the generous parent. Thus it was with every man in the South, and I, therefore, pronounce the rebellion cruel and wicked in the highest degree. What is it that gives you a name amongst the nations of the earth? Go abroad to other lands. They do not know you by New-Yorker, Missourian, or Carolinian; but they know you as the the representatives of your national flag, and it is that which we seek to bear aloft triumphant. I believe that the immortal GRANT will go to Richmond upon the road he proposed to travel. Already he stands at the gate, and it may take some time longer to enter; but, my friends, I do not anticipate that the rebellion will then be over. The leaders have staked everything and they hang upon the issue. GRANT, with his invincible legions, will yet travel on to Carolina, to Georgia, still conquering, and his brave antagonists, who are so sadly beguiled and misled, will finally yield. It may take six months or even a year longer. In conclusion, the speaker exhorted the people to stand by the Union, with the motto of "the Federal Union; it must be preserved!"

SPEECH OF HYRUM WALBRIDGE.

Gen. HYRUM WALBRIDGE was then introduced and received with great applause. He said: When a body of rebellious States attempted the overthrow of the constitutional Government, and it becomes necessary to appeal to the loyalty and patriotism of the Union, the citizens of New-York, in this place three years ago, pledged themselves not only to this generation, but to posterity, that the cause of constitutional Government should be upheld at every hazard. One year later, in 1862, when disaster seemed temporarily to reset upon our arms, the citizens of New-York again assembled here to pledge themselves to the continuance of the struggle. In 1863 this same square was enlivened by patriotic citizens in sustaining the same great cause. In 1864, while various assemblages are convening in various parts of the Union to sustain the great cause, the people again assembled here to stand by their Constitution and their Government. I am here in obedience to the conviction that from the first day the gun was heard at Sumter until this moment, there has been and there is now, but one question—the military question. Again, this rebellion has demonstrated two great things: that this people are competent to suppress treasonable revolt, and that ULYSSES S. GRANT is the man to do it. [Applause.]

The General, after complimenting Missouri on her noble stand, said he desired to place himself on record that the Press shall be as free as air, amenable only for its abuse. He then presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That this meeting express an earnest desire that the Board of Supervisors shall continue to pay the bounty to enlist men to strengthen our armies in the field.

The resolution was unanimously carried, with great applause, and three cheers for the General, which were heartily responded to.

Wm. ROSS WALLACE then recited his famous poem, "Keep Steps with the Music of the Union," after which the meeting at this stand adjourned, to witness the fireworks.

Stand No. 2.

R. B. LATHROP, Esq., called the meeting to order. He said: Fellow Citizens: It affords me pleasure far beyond my feeble powers to express, to stand before such a concourse of loyal citizens, every impulse of whose hearts is in favor of the war. I thank you for this presence. I feel and you all feel that it is the duty of every citizen of this country to sustain the Government by all the means in his power in this hour of its trial. For that purpose we are met on this occasion to render deserved honors to the gallant armies that are fighting our battles. I nominate for your presiding officer JAMES T. BRADY, Esq., [Cheers for Mr. BRADY,] a man whom every loyal citizen of this country regards not merely with honor and esteem, but I may say affection, for the noble stand he has taken in our country's cause. [Cheers.]

Mr. BRADY, on taking the chair, said: Fellow Citizens: According to the programme, you will do me the favor to maintain perfect silence while a prayer will be offered by Rev. Mr. Dutcher, of the Market-street Church; after which I propose to indulge in a few remarks before the meeting is fully organized.

Prayer was then offered, after which Mr. BRADY spoke as follows:

SPEECH OF JAMES T. BRADY, ESQ.

It is hardly necessary for me to inform you, gentlemen, how exceedingly difficult it is, in the open air, to make one's voice heard at any considerable distance, even though he should be endowed with lungs in capacity far greater than I physically possess. But if I had the capacity to make heard all the language which I might be able to produce from my vocabulary, it would be nothing to the great tones of the American people at the North now universally shouting with one accord of heart and lips, the name of ULYSSES S. GRANT. [Loud cheers.] It was expected that we should have been delighted on this occasion by the presence of Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT. He is absent in person but present in spirit. He commends, as I happen to know, the convocation of the people here this evening, and speaks in the highest terms of that gallant, brave, and wise young chief who is destined to lead our armies to certain triumph. [Cheers.] The absence of Gen. SCOTT is as distasteful to us as his presence has always been to the enemy. I feel a regret that any one less than he was called to preside upon an occasion like this. Being here, however, to discharge the duty which devolves upon me in the best manner practicable, I shall, in the first place, congratulate you that although the physical result of our triumph is not yet developed—though we cannot say that the end is one which we desire, yet we have a united Army with only one man at the head, [cheers,] and that man at the head has hitherto, at Donelson, at Vicksburgh, proved himself worthy of the high trust with which he is charged. And he will be false to his past, false to the promise of the present, and the hopes of the future, if he does not succeed in planting the flag of the Union on such an eminence that no traitor hereafter will ever attempt to lay his accursed hand upon it. We do not come here this evening for any political or party purpose. [Applause.] If this meeting were impelled by such a motive, I should not have presented myself here at all. But we do come to render justice to the memory of him who stands at the head of the army, and to every officer who fights with him, and to every private who serves faithfully in the ranks. [Cheers.] We come to express our gratitude to those who have served in the past, as well as those who render service in the present. And while we remember the name of the military commander in Virginia, we also honor the name of SHERMAN, who is fighting in another quarter. [Cheers.] While we illustrate, so far as we can, our confidence in and admiration of those who have the supreme command, we have not forgotten HANCOCK, and BURNSIDES, and WARREN, and BARLOW, and BIERNEY. [Cheers.] Nor have we forgotten our great cavalry officers, AVERILL, and KILPATRICK, and SHERIDAN, men of whom we at the North can say, what no Southerner can say about only the rebels that command their cavalry, that neither of them ever perpetrated such dastardly miserable acts as those which have disgraced QUANTRELL and FORREST. [Loud cheers.] I congratulate you that we meet here on Saturday evening, although if the mere presence of numbers were a test of the success of an assemblage, Saturday evening at 6 o'clock would not seem to be the best for the laboring classes, who about that hour receive their wages. But everybody knows what the sentiment of this City has at last come to be. It was not always as it is when I speak to you now. Within the sound of my voice, feeble as it is, in houses where the [illegible] heard traitors have been living, since this war began, [Voices—"That is so"—cheers,] in the luxurious clubs; almost within the sound of my voice, have been the skulking and spurious Southerners who stayed here amongst us, not having the courage to go shares in the danger to which they invited their brethren at home. [Loud cheers.] I see one of them in this crowd. [Great sensation—cries of "Put him out."] No, I beg pardon; we will not imitate the example of the South, which will not permit a man, and never did permit a man to express his sentiments unless they accorded with those that prevailed there. [Applause.] Thank God, we are for freedom, and I shall permit no interruption of it in any individual case, nor in the case of a class. We were troubled with that set of men, and we were troubled with others. We were troubled with truculent traitors born at the North, who would rather that their country should be murdered than that one of their dogmas should be disproved. [Cheers.] Men who had not the audacity to assist in secession, but who stood with their dark lanters in appropriate places, holding them in such a position that they covered their own precious carcases, and shed the light into the heart into which the reeking dagger of the parricide was to be plunged. [Applause.] We are done with them. We are done with the sneaking, miserable dastards who, when the extreme came about the time of the battle of Gettysburgh, skulked into corners and drinking holes, and though men born in what they call high stations ingsociety, trembled and faltered because they feared that they would really read that the American flag had prevailed. [Cheers.] These men belong to what is called the Peace Party, which is now in such fragments that the only view you can catch of a man belonging to it is to see him hurrying from it, lest some of the falling bricks may destroy his miserable head. [Laughter and cheers.] We are done with them, and as I congratulated you at the beginning that we had a unified army, so now I tell you we have a united people. [Cheers.] I have characterized these wretched traitors who have been among us. There is another class of men who have been fervent and warm-hearted in supporting this country during this war, but who nevertheless have never desired that the Union should be destroyed or disgrace visited upon our armies—a class of men who, unfortunately, have mistaken the right of criticism of the acts of the Administration for the right to go against national existence. They are seeing their way clear out of the erroneous path into which they permitted themselves to be misled, and, as sure as you stand here and I stand in the North, who heretofore have permitted themselves to be arrayed, even for an instant, against the prosecution of this war, the residue now left is so small that on any rainy day it can meet under an umbrella in the Park. [Great laughter.] Let me tell you another thing—and you will have it verified in your personal experience—that of those men who have undertaken to set up their own peculiar opinions against the existence of their country, it will one day or other be required to produce more witnesses in a court of justice to prove that they were not all disloyal to the Union, that they could ever call to prove that a generous emotion ever stirred in their bosoms. [Cheers.] I have transcended the limits assigned to myself. [Cries of "Go on."] Excuse me. Apart from the vanity which is gratified by uttering one's own language, allow me to say to you that speaking in public in the open air is no easy task. If you think it is I would like one of you to come here and try it. [Laughter.] After the organization of the meeting I shall give way to the reading of the excellent resolutions that have been prepared, after which eminent gentlemen will address you. I will only say in conclusion, that to my mind the grandest circumstance to come out of the triumph of our arms—as we done sooner or later—from this struggle in which we have spent so much of the blood and treasure, North, East and West—the greatest triumph to come out of this battle, never to be given up, apart from the settling of our national existence under the old flag, is, that the time may come when the united American people, in all the States of the Union that we ever numbered, and more added to the list, will visit their just vengeance upon the nation which in our hour of disaster basely and meanly turned against us. [Loud cheers.]

Mr. JOSEPH HOXIE then nominated for Vice-Presidents of the meeting, RICHARD D. LATHROP, WM. B. ASTOR and several others; also a list of Secretaries, who were duly chosen.

The resolutions were then read by WALDO HUTCHINGS, Esq., and unanimously adopted.

The President then introduced the Hon. Mr. TYLER, of Connecticut, who spoke as follows:

SPEECH OF HON. MR. TYLER.

If this rebellion had succeeded, I should not have been permitted to call myself other than a citizen of the State of Connecticut. I could not have been dignified by the name of a citizen of the United States. Thank God the rebellion has not triumphed. God grant a speedy termination of it. And as God works by means, God and GRANT will fetch it about soon. [Laughter and cheers.] The speaker was proceeding to apply the language which BYRON in the "Corsair," put in the mouth of the Pacha, in speaking of CONRAD, the pirate and rebel, when the centre of the stand containing the officers of the meeting broke down and tumbled them all in a mass a few feet below. Some of the reporters went down with the rest, others clung to the railing and a single plank in front. The speaker also kept himself up, and at the top of his voice said: I tell you, gentlemen, something more than this has got to give way before we shall desert our post. [Cheers.] Carry off the wounded and let the old troops stand up. [Laughter.] No one being hurt the carpenters proceeded to repair the breach, while the speaker continued: We have assembled for no party purpose, but with one heart, mind and spirit, as American citizens deeply interested in the welfare of our country, to maintain the integrity of the Union, freedom and independence forever. Where now is that clamor which we used to hear from the demagogues of the land, for compromise? In the name of God what had we to compromise? Rome once listened to compromise, when the Gauls proposed, for a thousand pounds in gold, to permit her army to evacuate. When it was brought out, it was discovered that SULPICIUS was weighing with false scales. At that moment the Roman General approached the gates of the city with the remnant of his army, and exclaimed, "Carry back the gold into the capital. Rome must be redeemed by steel and not by gold." So say I of our country now; it must be redeemed by steel and not by compromise. [Applause.] Some people talk of intervention on behalf of the South. Who is to intervene? England? Let her come. We will welcome her with our former hospitality on the heights of Bunker Hill, the plains of Yorktown, and among the cotton bales of New-Orleans. [Cheers.] She boasts of a navy which it has taken her a thousand years to build. [Laughter.] We sent out from my own little Connecticut a man who constructed, manned and equipped a fleet which opened the Mississippi—and some say he *floated* the bill himself. [Laughter.] England intervene! Have we not always had a friend in Russia—and was not the presence of a Russian fleet in our harbor recently significant? When I saw that fleet I said to myself, "Let the British lion come on; he will feel the American eagle's talons in his eyes, and the Russian bear knawing at his vitals." [Laughter.] The State of Connecticut, as compared with your own, is as a swivel to a columbiad; but I would rather have a swivel manned and shotted with common sense and patriotism, and WM. A. BUCKINGHAM to give command, than to have your columbiad with the nonsense and disloyalty of HORATIO SEYMOUR. [Cheers.] In the time of the Revolution our State was more potent in comparison with yours than it is now; and when you could not put down your "Tory Gazette," because there were so many Cowboys among you, we could stand it no longer, and so we came down, seized your Tory press, flung it into the street, and took the type home to shoot the British with. [Laughter.] The body of Gen. NATHANIEL LYON now lie in the same neighborhood with the bones of ISRAEL PUTNAM; and I tell you, in that country everything animate and inanimate is for the Union. Every bow that sways in the wind whistles the music of the Union, and the very stones ache to have some youthful David seize them and hurl them at the head of the rebels. [Laughter and cheers.]

SPEECH OF GEN. THOMAS FRANCIS MEAGHER.

Mr. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—FELLOW CITIZENS: My presence at this meeting, I trust, was not necessary to assure you that I thoroughly and heartily approve of the object for which it is convened. No manifestation of gratitude and joy on the part of the people, appears to me too opportune, or too great, even at this hour, in view of the services already rendered the American Nation by Gen. ULYSSES S. GRANT, [applause,] and in view of the firm commanding attitude in which the noble old Army of the Potomac, in which it shall be my proudest boast in life to have served [applause]—now appears under his guidance, and sharing equally with him his indomitable nerve and purpose, now stands in front of Richmond. [Cheers. A voice: "They will have it yet."] General orders, proclamations, or bulletins from Washington conveying thanks and commendations to the army and the navy, whilst they are gracious and notable tributes to their worth, are, at the same time, all wholesome incentives to renewed exertions to gallantry in the field, and on the sea. [Applause.] But to stir the soldiers, or the sailor's heart to the core—to fire them with the enthusiasm which never can abate—to pledge them to victory—give me the acclamations of the people, rendered, as those acclamations ever are, wherever generosity, fidelity to duty, manhood and heroism in the cause of the country call them forth. [Applause.] For these, after all which the Army of the Potomac under so many adversities has endured and achieved—for all that the magnificent armies of the West have accomplished—for all that the hearty, utterly fearless water-and-fire-defying sailors of FARRAGUT, PORTER, DUPONT and FOOTE, have done and are yet sworn to do—for all these let the applause of the people go forth this hour, and depend upon it that they shall not have been uttered to no purpose. [Cheers. A VOICE—"What are you going to do with McCLELLAN?"] That is not for me to say—that is for you. [Laughter and applause.] Rest assured, fellow-citizens, that the highest eulogies which the orators of this evening may below upon them—that the most vehement hurrahs with which the thousands here assembled may utter—nay, nor the music which superbly swells this hour, nor the roar of cannon, nor the illuminations with which the names of our heroes and battle-fields, as well as our hopes of destined victories, are now diffused throughout the beauty and the glory of the coming night—none of these, nor all of them, shall be thrown away; and depend upon it, one and all of them shall produce a commensurate effect. [Applause.] "The people, the people, are with us!" That will be the shout of our armies. That will be the shout of our navy. Satisfied of this they will go forth and repay the people for their gratitude and encouragement, with new exploits upon both land and sea, to the lasting advantage of the nation. [Great applause.] "The people are with us"—with that shout the Army of the Potomac will prove invincible and irresistible. [Cheers.] With that shout we will complete, with a consummate consent, the misfortunes of the first campaign—do so on the very field on which it met with its first and its worst reverses; thereby consecrating the graves along the headwaters of the Chickahominy—converting them into altars and triumphant monuments to liberty, to law, and the vital principle of nationality, without which no people, however industrious or enterprising they may be, can be prosperous or great, or have any influence at all. [Applause.] "The people are with us." With that shout in one sound going forth from this great meeting, the sailors and soldiers of the Union will wage, triumphantly, war against the rebellion, wherever it lifts a bayonet or spreads a sail, until not a shred of the rebel flag shall anywhere, upon the broad world, flutter between us and the sunlight. [Cheers.] Until, as a sublime consequence and the definite retribution of the rebellion, not a single slave shall stand, either on sea or soil, beneath the Stars and Stripes, to contradict the Declaration of Independence, and compromise the splendor of the character and the destiny of the United States. [Tremendous cheering.]

SPEECH OF REV. WM. H. BOOLE.

Mr. BOOLE commenced by saying that every minister was expected to have a text when he spoke; he therefore would choose as his text on this occasion the sixth and last of the resolutions, remarking, that like the victories of Gen. GRANT in the West, they would bear repeating. That, he remarked, was the test of loyalty—of unconditional loyalty to one's Government, when that Government had been rightfully, constitutionally elected. He who would not devote his life, his fortune, and his honor, to the cause of the country, was a slave, and deserved, for his punishment, to have his treasonable wish, that the country should perish, gratified, that he might bear the odium of her defeat. In such perilous times as these there was no fence upon which cowardly men could pivot and swing, that he might turn to the one side or the other to escape the causes and the perils of his time. His war cry and banner was "The whole country and no compromise,"—["Good"]—"Union and freedom"—["That's the talk"]—with Gen. U. S. GRANT, chief Captain of the invincible armies of the Union, headquarters at Richmond. [Laughter and applause.] He would not stop to discuss the principles of the nation's almost holy cause. Like the foundations of the pyramids they were settled and fixed, by history and truth and terrible years of the past, in the heart of every loyal man. Nor would he spend breath in telling them the causes of the rebellion, and how it should be treated. If there was any man who wanted to know the cause of the war, and how the rebellion should be treated, he would refer him to the instruction of the wise and overruling Providence, who, for the last three years had been employing every efficient means to open the eyes of the blind and unstop the ears of the deaf, and, by good discipline, had brought many to understand the truth as it was in freedom. ["Good."] It was said that history repeated itself. That was no more so as to the present time. This rebellion had never an equal in history. In treachery, in blackness of crime, this accursed rebellion, conceived in sin, shapen in iniquity, and untimely born from the womb of hell, stood out on the great plain of history alone and unparalled. [Applause.] All past civil wars had been little more than immense riots. Some rebellions had been caused by a cry for "bread," or the sharp enactings of a ruling despot; but this rebellion had no such cause as that; there was no uprising of the famishing population; there was no stroke, either deep or pointing, of the usurper's sword; there was nothing to raise an infuriated people to appeal to arms to redress their wrongs. The South had been like an over-fed child of an over-fond parent. The cause of the rebellion was an incurable heart disease, not a nerve or blotch upon the face disfiguring it, and likely to yield to proper remedies; but the whole body was the blotch and an inch of fair skin the exception. [Laughter.] Not a cancer appearing upon the face and loathsome to the sight, but the *heart* was the cancer and every vein and artery leading out therefrom was an unobstructed channel that sent the blood out from the extremities of the well-nigh idiluted body. [Applause.] The Government needed the support of every man, woman and child without respect to party considerations, which, for the time, should be thrown aside. The soldier was not now fighting for "the green graves of his sires," but for his children and for his altar. [Great